DUDLEY
CHRONICLE

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COUNCIL NEEDS FOSTER CARERS

by Lee Watton

A LEADING Tory councillor has called for measures to attract more foster carers after figures revealed a 21 per cent rise in the number of Dudley children taken into care during the past three years.

Dudley Council is looking after 740 children compared to around 480 in 2010. The authority now plans to take on eight additional staff to work with parents whose children have been taken into care to provide an in-house "supervised contact" service. This is presently provided by an outside agency. Staff will help families meet and work through issues in "family-friendly" surroundings.

But Councillor Liz Walker, Conservative spokesman on Integrated Children's Services, said she was not convinced the move was the right way forward.

And she believed measures to "cut red tape" were needed to attract more foster carers in the borough.

"I was disappointed to hear so many children in the borough have gone into care over this period," she said.

"It shows Dudley is a very rigorous authority but the cost is phenomenal. Measures are needed to bring in more high quality foster carers.

"There is a lot of red tape and this can be off-putting for people who would like to become foster carers. We should be seeking to remove obstacles where we can.

Creation

"In terms of the creation of an in-house service I just hope the cost is justified. We need to ensure the quality of the service is the same as that provided by outside agencies.

"At the moment I am not convinced this change is the right way forward."

Councillor Tim Crumpton, cabinet member for children's services, said: "It will always be a last resort to put children into care.

"However, people should understand that for some, this was their first real chance to live a life with pleasure.

"Like many other local authorities across the country the current economic climate is placing pressure on families.

"The impact of high profile child protection cases is also raising awareness amongst professionals of the potential risks within families.

"The increased number of looked after children places pressure on both budgets and access to suitable placements but we will continue to work hard to provide support and care for families in most need."

Steering lock road rage man avoids jail

A MOTORIST, who hit another man with a metal steering lock in a road rage attack, avoided jail after a court heard he was due to be a father and was a carer for his sister.

Mohammed Yousaf was told by Recorder Mr Adam Feest that people who arm themselves with weapons in road rage attacks should normally go to prison.

But he sentenced 30-year-old Yousaf, of Dudley Road, Tividale, to nine months suspended for two years.

He was also ordered to do 200 hours of unpaid community work and to pay £200 compensation to his victim, Luke Guy, whom he hit around the head and ribs.

The attack, which happened in Hall Street, Dudley, at the junction with North Street, on June 8 last year, ended only when Mr Guy's pregnant girlfriend, Terri Winder, threw herself across him to protect him.

Yousaf denied racially aggravated assault and having an offensive weapon. At Wolverhampton Crown Court, he was cleared of racially aggravated assault but found guilty of an alternative assault charge and having the weapon.

During his trial, he admitted he hit Mr Guy with a metal steering lock but claimed it was in self defence.

HMV jobs in rescue move

HMV has been rescued in a £50 million deal that will help to preserve 2,500 jobs.

Britain's last remaining independent music retail chain will be salvaged in a plan that will keep more than 140 shops open – likely to include the branch at the Merry Hill centre, Dudley. The move is too late to save the branch in Walsall which has already shut.

But the news is likely to mean other branches including one in Wolverhampton will be rescued. Specialist restructuring firm Hilco has signed a binding agreement.

Two attackers boasted about killing in alley, court is told

TWO men attacked, stripped and battered to death a reveller as he walked home from a night out before going to a house party and "boasting" about what they had done, a court was told.

A jury heard Shylon Wishart and James Cartwright beat victim Shane Watson in an alleyway and took photographs of themselves urinating on him.

A court heard how the assault took place after the victim had become separated from his girlfriend Kelly Handley during a night out in Sedgley.

It was alleged that when she tried to contact her partner on the phone, one of the attackers answered and "callously" told her: "Your boyfriend has been dealt with."

During the opening of his murder trial, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard that Wishart denied taking part in the attack on the 23-year-old victim.

Prosecutor Mr Peter Grieves-Smith said 18-year-old James Cartwright had earlier admitted killing Mr Watson.

Jurors were told that Mr Watson had been in Monty's Bar in High Street, Sedgley, in the hours before he was attacked.

Mr Grieves-Smith claimed that 19-year-old Wishart, of North Springfield, and 18-year-old Cartwright, of Sandyfields Road, were responsible for the attack. Wishart denies murder. The trial continues.

Rebels yell with cheers at win

Front, coaches Jade Somers and Lynette Haines with members of the Black Country Rebels are celebrating their award win and hoping to raise funds to get to America

THEY'RE used to leading the cheers, but it was a case of role reversal for young performers from a Dudley dance troupe as they received all the praise.

Cheerleading and street dance teams from the Black Country Rebels Dance Group in Brierley Hill, celebrated winning top awards at their latest competition. And it could get even sweeter for the youngsters if they can raise the cash to help them take up an invite to jet off and dance in America.

Youngsters from the Rebels took part in the British Cheerleading Association National Championships in Telford.

One of the cheerleading pom-pom dance troops won their category in the 12- to 15-year-old age range. Meanwhile one of the Rebels' street dance groups won the 12- to 16-year-old category. The two winning teams have now been invited by the association take part part in a contest stateside. Black Country Rebels formed in January 2011 and have grown from strength to strength, now boasting around 50 members aged from four to 25.

Coaches Jade Somers and Lynette Haines have been praised by the group leaders for their dedicated efforts in rehearsals to help the youngsters learn their steps and routines. Rebels chairman Tina Bowen said: "We are so pleased with everyone who took part and we have to pay tribute to Jade and Lynette for their efforts. It would be brilliant if we can go to America and we'll be looking to do fundraising."

Group leaders have also received a boost after securing a £2,110 funding grant from the communities first group.

£3m site will train chefs of the future

STUDENTS will be serving up meals to visitors at a new £3 million education and heritage centre in Dudley under plans to create a training kitchen and restaurant.

Dudley Canal Trust (Trips), which is working to open a new canalside attraction by autumn 2014, has teamed up with Dudley College.

Catering students enrolled on college courses will be able to cook for visitors, corporate clients and wedding parties as the site has a licence for marriages to take place in the caverns.

The new centre is called The Portal, taking its name from the entrance to a canal tunnel. It will provide the tens of thousands of visitors to the site every year with information on the Black Country's canal heritage.

The Portal will be built at the Dudley Canal Tunnel entrance at Todds End, off Birmingham New Road.

The partnership with Dudley College will see the opening of a commercial training kitchen and restaurant. Principal Lowell Williams said: "Many of our students will benefit from this unique partnership so we are really excited about the opportunities working with Dudley Canal Trust can offer." Dudley Council approved plans for the centre in January.

Deal to pay for service

HEALTH chiefs in Dudley have struck a new £60,000 deal with an award-winning support service to help adults improve mental well-being.

Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group agreed to fund a one-year contract with the Big White Wall service, an online, anonymous service supporting those who experience emotional or psychological distress. The service is based on bringing together an online community of people to talk about their own mental health.

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Hit-and-run driver gave himself up

A DUDLEY driver has admitted failing to stop after knocking down 21-year-old Tom Cox from the Black Country who died hours later.

Ben Davies was driving the car which hit Mr Cox, of Tipton, as he walked to a bus stop in Sedgley to meet his girlfriend on his birthday.

Mr Cox, a former Willingsworth High School student, suffered head injuries and died the following morning. Davies, who admitted taking cocaine the day before the crash, failed to stop but handed himself in to police 13 hours later. At Dudley Magistrates Court last week, Davies, of Old Park Road, Dudley, pleaded guilty to failing to stop at the scene of an accident – a crime which carries a maximum sentence of six months in prison. Mrs Sukhi Rai, prosecuting, said 25-year-old Davies had been driving along Dudley Road towards Dudley when Mr Cox was hit at 11pm on November 17. She said the road had a 30mph limit and it appeared Mr Cox had emerged from beside a line of parked cars.

She said: "He was found on the pavement with serious head injuries and taken to Queen Elizabeth Hospital. Despite medical intervention, his injuries unfortunately proved fatal. Thirteen hours later, Mr Davies went to Dudley police."

After his arrest, he again admitted his part in the accident and he'd taken cocaine the day before but experts were unable to say whether this would have affected his driving.

Mr Lee Preston, defending, said: "This is a dreadful incident but we're not dealing with this man for causing the death of this unfortunate young man. We're dealing with him for failing to stop."

Davies was bailed until April 29 when he will be sentenced.

Lenny relieved wrangle on his freedom is over

COMEDIAN Lenny Henry revealed his relief after rowing councillors "made up their minds" about bestowing his Freedom of Dudley honour as he prepared to take to the Midland stage in his latest play.

Councillors were at loggerheads over the decision to award the comic the civic honour, which was only previously given to long-standing councillors or other notable residents.

But after months of wrangling, a committee of councillors agreed new rules around the award which opened the doors to the nomination for the former Tiswas star.

This came despite continued opposition from some members including Conservative group leader Councillor Patrick Harley.

However, Mr Henry, who has returned to the region this week to take a leading role in a new theatre production, says despite the fuss he is delighted to receive his title as a Freedom of the Borough.

Discussions

"It is a lovely thing to receive," he said. "I'm grateful they made up their minds. I had heard about their discussions over 12 months ago and I realise there had been a deep conversation about it. But I'm really pleased with it," he said.

Mr Henry, aged 54, grew up in Douglas Road close to Buffery Park in Dudley and attended the former Blue Coat School, in Kates Hill, before he rose to fame as winner of television talent show New Faces in 1975.

He hopes they can enjoy the day when he becomes a Freeman of Dudley later this year. "I'm not sure yet what you receive for it," he said. "I'm a CBE and that means I supposedly allowed down into a submarine."

The future of market now under threat, claim

THE future of Dudley's market could be threatened if multi-million pound new supermarkets are built in the town centre, it is feared.

Three rival regeneration schemes have been given the go-ahead by councillors.

They include the Porters Field project which will see Cavendish House demolished to make way for a modern store and a stylish public piazza.

While a £20 million scheme has been earmarked for the New Mill Gate area of the town centre between Flood Street and King Street by developer Commercial Estates Group. Both projects, which will bring hundreds of new jobs, were approved by Dudley Council.

But Len Lenihan, chairman of Dudley Market Traders' Association, said: "I don't believe it's what the town needs. I don't think it's a good idea to have these developments on the outskirts of the town centre taking shoppers away from the High Street and the market."

But councillors welcomed the developments.

Councillor Tim Wright, said: "We may get one, we may get two but if we don't approve them we aren't going to get any."

Can't get e-Nerf of retro blasters

Mayor of Dudley Melvyn Mottram and Tim Rusby, MD of Paragon Creative, in the arena

FAMILIES wanting to relive some of their youth have been making the most of a new adventure attraction at Merry Hill Shopping Centre.

The Quest includes something unique for the UK – a battle arena where contestants fight it out using Nerf blasters.

The Nerf gun was one of the most popular toys in the 1990s, with millions of youngsters around the world having fun duelling with soft foam bullets.

Now fans of the retro toy can relive their childhood in a paintball-style combat arena at Quest. Rowena Lee, from Quest, said: "The combat arena is not just for kids. Nerf is such a retro game with such a cult following, and so a lot of people who grew up in the 90s are coming down because it was something they loved.

"We are the first Nerf combat arena in the UK, and it's something that's come over from America so we have a lot of American followers on our Facebook page."

Merry Hill Centre bosses said the adventure attraction had been received "really well".

Sons site campaign starting to grow

THE campaign to reopen a former Sons of Rest building in Halesowen has gathered pace after a business plan was lodged with council bosses.

Campaigners have formed a new company called Hasbury Community Association to put pressure on Dudley Council.

Officials had proposed selling the building, near Alexandra Road and Wall Well, and put it on the market last year. But residents say they want a new community hub and pleaded for a future for the premises built on land donated to the town in 1947 by the then mayor Lionel Rose.

Now campaigners are pushing to raise £5,000 to kickstart a charity to manage the centre.

Councillor Donella Russell, who is heading up the scheme with campaigner Ian Cooper, said: "We are raising money to help with the fight to keep this building open and for the use of the community.

"The business plan has now gone in and the fundraising has started to provide the centre with the stability it initially requires."

Extra hours for air crew

THREE lifesaving Midlands Air Ambulance aircraft will fly an extra 60 hours per week at a cost of £50,000 to cover vital shifts during longer summer days.

Air crew based at RAF Cosford, near Wolverhampton, Tatenhill, near Burton, and Strensham, south of Worcester, will be on alert for emergencies from 7am until at least 9pm seven days a week.

It is the first time the charity has operated its entire fleet of helicopters at the same time, instead of using a shift system, to cover the service.

Pizza fight lost

PROTESTERS have lost their campaign against opening a pizza takeaway in Halesowen despite fears over an increase in crime. They claim gangs of youths will be attracted to Hurst Green Shopping Centre, off Woodbury Road, in the evenings. More than 260 people signed a petition against the plan.

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£234,000 loans go to firms

MORE than £234,000 of loans has been shared out among small businesses in Dudley from council officials to help secure jobs during tough economic times.

The cash comes from the £1million Dudley Business Loan Fund, which was set up for small and medium-sized companies in the borough.

It can be used by firms which have been struggling to get loans from banks in recent months to expand their businesses.

Council officials today estimated the cash had been used to create more than 20 jobs and safeguard a further 61 positions since the project launched in August last year.

The fund was set up in partnership with the Black Country Reinvestment Society to support small businesses.

Dudley Council's deputy leader, Councillor Shaukat Ali, who is also regeneration boss in the borough, welcomed the news.

He added: "Small businesses are a vital part of the regeneration jigsaw for the borough and I'm delighted to see we have already been able to help so many create and secure jobs. We will continue to lead the way."

Store set to reopen soon

A HIGH street supermarket is close to reopening in Dudley after a four-week refurbishment and rebranding.

Cool Trader in Market Street, Kingswinford, will be a Herons Food store when work ends next week.

The change in brand follows the sale of Cool Trader by Iceland to Herons Foods in September 2012. Heron Foods bosses say the store opening could be followed by several more in the Black Country.

It is welcome news for the town after the collapse of The Sofa Club on The Pensnett Trading Estate and the announcement that npower is closing its High Street office.

Refurbishment of the Kingswinford store, which covers two retail units, will include a new chilled section.

History meeting

WOODSIDE Memory and History Group will meet on April 15 from 7pm to 9pm at Woodside Community Centre, Holly Hall.

Travel firm in tax wrangle aims to grow

The Parry People Mover shuttle

A CRISIS-HIT Black Country transport company has pledged it will not be derailed by a wrangle over £70,000 VAT – and will see through plans that could create hundreds more jobs for the region.

The firm behind the highly successful Stourbridge Parry People Mover rail bus, which shuttles 500,000 passengers a year between the town's two rail stations, has a new £700,000 order from Turkey for a slightly larger vehicle. Parry People Movers Ltd, in Cradley Heath, is also on the brink of clinching an order worth more than £1 million from America.

And the company is also in line for £1m funding through a regional fund to invest in proposals for a vehicle that would double the size of its People Mover, which is powered by a 2.3 litre car engine.

John Parry, the chairman of associate company JPM Parry, said that if everything came to fruition, the Parry People Movers' 10-strong workforce could increase to 50 and hundreds more jobs could be created at companies which are making components for the company.

These would include WDB, at Halesowen; Stourbridge firm Scandus, and Trailways, Bloxwich.

Parry's has been granted a 56-day reprieve at the High Court in London after an attempt by HM Revenue and Customs to wind it up over a £70,000 VAT debt.

Mr Parry said that he was confident that, with the support of its shareholders, the company would overcome its present difficulty and carry on with its plans.

"We won't be derailed," he said. "We have the full support of shareholders – they are enthusiastic to see the project through in spite of the financial difficulties we have been going through.

Store raid gang's reign of terror is brought to an end

FOUR men admitted their role in robberies in the Black Country including one at a store in Dudley after a dramatic roof top arrest.

The masked armed gang left staff terrified at eight shops in a four month spree which saw them snatch cigarettes, spirits, cash and other goods. They were stopped as two were caught trying to grab cash and up to £10,000 of cigarettes from a Co-op shop in Overfield Road, Russells Hall, Dudley, as it prepared to open on September 22. Police found 22-year-old Jake Williams on the roof and Andrew Scanlon, 23, at the back of the store.

by Helen Brown

Anthony Everitt, 35, and Stuart Plant, 24, were arrested soon after.

The breakthrough came as detectives investigated 26 robberies on convenience stores and all-night garages in which up to £50,000 of cigarettes and about £20,000 cash was stolen.

At Wolverhampton Crown Court Williams of Meldon Drive, Everitt, of Wallace Road and Plant of Daley Road, all Bradley, Wolverhampton, admitted conspiring with others to commit robberies between May 22 and September 23.

Scanlon, 23, of Oak Road, Tipton admitted a single robbery charge at the Overfield Road Co-op. All four defendants were remanded in custody for sentence on May 7. Judge Nicholas Webb called for a pre-sentence report for the hearing on Scanlon who was of previous good character.

For months they terrorised shop keepers in the region – threatening staff with weapons to make them hand over cash and cigarettes.

After covering their faces they would rush into the store they had targeted waving an axe or hammer to ensure victims did not resist.

They would then stuff bags with packets of cigarettes and steal cash.

Police were alerted to the raid in progress at Dudley-where a four-strong masked and armed gang had pounced minutes earlier as staff arrived.

Terrified workers were threatened with an axe or hammer and were bundled into the store.

The mobile phone of a worker was smashed as staff were forced to open the safe and the gang prepared to flee. Then police swooped.

Not all gang members were involved in all the robberies.

Three face charges

THREE men have been charged with burglary after being accused of trying to steal copper piping from an empty house in Dudley.

Police officers swooped on Celandine Road, on the Wrens Nest estate, following a tip-off to make arrests last week.

They were called on April 2 at around 10pm.

All three men have been charged in relation to the incident and bailed to appear at Dudley Magistrates Court on April 19.

Nicole Kidman shooting on set for new movie Before I go to Sleep

Nicole in the Capital filming top book

NICOLE Kidman has been working in London filming the movie adaptation of a Dudley author's debut novel.

The 45-year-old Hollywood superstar was in the capital during shoots for Before I go to Sleep the book of which was written by Steve Watson of Stourbridge.

She plays Christine Lucas, who wakes up to find she does not recognise her life and has no idea who her husband is.

The film is shaping up to be one of the biggest releases of the year after the best-selling novel captured the imagination of readers across the globe.

It is scheduled for release later this year and the book of the same name has sold more than 350,000 copies.

The rights were gained by by director Ridley Scott, who drafted in stars Kidman and Colin Firth to play the lead roles.

Mr Watson, aged 41, who grew up in Wordsley, started writing the book as a hobby while working as an audiology specialist and now admits he may never return to his old job.

The book shot to number one in the Sunday Times paperback chart.

NEWS in brief

Auditions open for a pantomime

A BLACK Country youth pantomime group is seeking performers to bring its next production to life.

The Young Ones Pantomime Company will perform Robinson Crusoe in January and will be holding auditions on May 12.

Anyone who is between seven and 18 is welcome to come and show their talent. The pantomime, which will be performed from January 26 to February 1, at Netherton Arts Centre.

For more information ontact Chris Sykes on 01384 895266.

Massive plans given go-ahead

MULTI-MILLION pound regeneration plans have been approved by Dudley Council planners.

The Porters Field project which will see the demolition of Cavendish House to create a public piazza won the backing of councillors.

Plans for redeveloping Falcon House in the New Mill Gate area of the town centre between Flood Street and King Street for a separate £20million supermarket scheme were also granted approval.

Organ music and coffee mornings

ORGAN playing will be on the agenda at coffee mornings in St John's Church in Hagley during summer.

The first will be on May 8, with organist Michael Jones and Eugene Stellenburg speaking about the Ifakara Baking Project, Tanzania. Jean Hadley will talk about Abraham's Oasis Orphanage in Ethiopia, while Richard Hall will play on June 12.

Village hall will hold funds sale

A VILLAGE hall charity just outside Stourbridge is holding a table-top sale to raise funds.

Stourton Village Hall, in Bridgnorth Road, Stourton needs to make money to pay for maintenance costs.

The sale will be on April 13 from 9.30am until 12.30pm.

A few stall tables remain available for £10. Call 01384 872073.

New Sikh station

A NEW radio station has been launched from a Sikh Gurdwara in Wolverhampton. Gulshan Radio will be available on 87.9FM after its launch from the Guru Nanak Satsang Gurdwara.

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NEWS

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

I WENT into town, ears blue with cold, to buy a winter hat, one of those woolly items, much favoured by Al Pacino and New York street thugs. The woolly hat is probably the only knitted garment ever to inspire fear. Sadly, I had reckoned without the seasonal shelf-stocking policy of clothes shops. For commercial purposes, winter is officially over. There is not a winter hat to be seen but the shelves are full of straw hats for something called summer.

COME to think of it, I recall another knitted garment that inspired fear. It was my first swimming costume, made by my mother when I was five. Things tended to fall out.

THE Government admits it has spent £18 million on confidentiality agreements to buy the silence of nearly 5,000 departing employees. These gagging orders can cost up to £400,000. In the bad old days the Mafia achieved much the same result with a bullet in the head and a dead canary stuffed in the victim's mouth to indicate he had been "singing." This solution was not only effective but cheap. And also cheep.

I WONDER how many millions of us watched the "emotional" press conference of Mick and Mairead Philpott and suspected, right from the start, that they were guilty of killing their six children in a house fire. I remember watching it on television last May and asking, as many others must have asked: "Where are the tears?" Philpott did a lot of hankie-wringing and face-dabbing but failed to produce a single teardrop. He wanted to be the celebrity and the hero. Instead, his performance for the cameras marked him down as the chief suspect.

CONTRAST Philpott's dry cheeks with those of his heroic neighbours, Jamie and Darren Butler who tried to rescue the kids but were beaten back by smoke and heat. Both men looked as hard as nails but as Darren recalled the night, tears poured down his face. If justice is done fully in this case, there will be medals.

MANY local Derbyshire folk turned up hoping to be extras in The Village (BBC1) but few were chosen. Most were rejected because of dyed hair, tattoos and other 21st century giveaways which would have looked bizarre in a 1914 drama. The rejects may be miffed but we should be profoundly thankful that it is so difficult for us to recreate the look of ordinary working folk nearly 100 years ago. Great-grandfather's generation grew up with rickets, TB, polio and cholera and a diet of 1,000 calories a day if they were lucky. Kids could be whacked by parents, teachers and any passing stranger and if you were sacked, you went hungry. In old photos, that doomed generation looks poor, pinched, spindly and deferential. If they could have looked into the future and seen us they would have been astonished at our size, our education, our good health and the curious fact that we don't doff our caps to anyone. From starvation to swagger in three generations. What an amazing century it has been.

MANCHESTER police are to extend the definition of "hate crimes" to cover attacks on Goths, emos and other sub-cultures. Let me know of any other groups who you think deserve special protection. Old blokes in libraries noisily sucking mints spring to mind.

MEANWHILE, back at the clothes shop I note that underpants are now being marketed as "keyhole trunks." Yale or Chubb, sir?

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Trust looking to protect historic sites

CALLS to protect historic landmarks around Halesowen, including a 13th century abbey site, have been made by campaigners who want to draw up a fundraising action plan.

They want to set up a fundraising committee as part of the Halesowen Abbey Trust and are keen to bring residents and businesses on board.

Landmarks like the former Halesowen Council buildings in the town centre, Lutley Mill and the home of Somers Sports and Social Club based at The Grange should be safeguarded, according to trust members.It comes after the future of the Halesowen Abbey ruins, in the grounds of Manor Abbey Farm, appeared settled as a deal to sell the site was expected to be completed next month.

Halesowen Abbey Trust had harboured ambitions to buy the site itself and was drawing up a £575,000 Heritage Lottery Fund application to create a visitors centre.

But instead private buyers have come forward to buy part the farmhouse and barns surrounding the ruins to create an events and weddings venue.

Campaigners hope to work with those buying Manor Abbey Farm, which is built into the ruins of Halesowen Abbey dating back to 1215, to strike a deal to allow them to hold visitor days.

However, trust spokesman Mick Freer said "positive" talks had been held with the new owners.

"The members are looking forward to getting to know the new owners," Mr Freer said.

He added the trust wanted to cast its net wider to ensure that other long-standing buildings in the town were protected.

Woman given pet ban after dog is put down

A WOMAN has been banned from keeping animals for five years after her pet dog had to be put down following months of neglect.

by Lee Watton

Sandra June Ray allowed one of 10-year-old Highland terrier Pepe's nails to grow so long it punctured her paw.

Dudley Magistrates Court heard a growth in the dog's mouth had gone untreated and reached the point where it could not be fully removed by vets. The court was told it had been decided to put Pepe down to end her suffering. The dog's coat was also matted and covered in the animal's urine and faeces.

Ray, aged 53, of Pennant Road, Cradley Heath, admitted causing unnecessary suffering to an animal and three charges of breaching a duty of animal welfare.

District Judge Graham Wilkinson told Ray she had only narrowly escaped a jail term before sentencing her to a two-month community order with a curfew between 6pm and 6am.

She was banned from keeping animals for five years and also ordered to pay a contribution of £1,000 to the care Pepe received from the RSPCA before she had to be put down.

Mrs Gaynor Sutton, prosecuting on behalf of the RSPCA, said the neglect had only come to light after neighbours, concerned for Pepe's welfare, confronted Ray on May 29 last year.

"Neighbours had been worried about Pepe for some time. They had only seen Ray visit once each day and only for a few minutes. They had also heard Pepe howling late at night," she said.

"On May 29 two neighbours knocked on the door and demanded to see Pepe. Ray let them in and they found the dog in the conditions described."

Mrs Sutton said Pepe would have suffered "severe pain" due to the "ulcerated mass" in her mouth.

Vets decided to put her down as they were unable to fully remove the growth.

The court was told when interviewed by the RSPCA, Ray had told them she had "done her best".

The court was told Pepe had originally belonged to Ray's late husband who had cared for the dog and kept her in good condition.

But after his death, the dog had been left in Ray's care. Mr Kirandeep Soor, defending, said his client had done her best to look after the dog but had not been able to cope.

But this was rejected by District Judge Wilkinson. He said: "If she could not cope she could have taken the dog to a charity like the RSPCA."

£76,000 win unclaimed

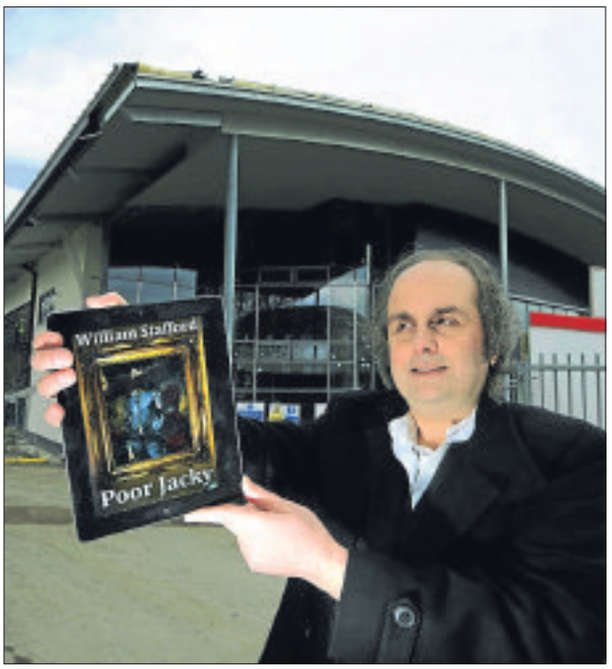
LOTTERY bosses are calling people in Dudley borough to check their old tickets after a £76,842 prize has yet to be claimed.

The winning ticket, which matched five numbers and the bonus ball, was bought for the Lotto draw on March 20.

The ticket holder has until September 16 to claim their prize.

The winning Lotto numbers were 4, 11, 14, 27, 43, 46 and the bonus ball was 42. If no-one comes forward the money will go to good causes.

Author Will inspired by archives



William Stafford outside the new archives centre which is being built in Dudley

THE construction of the archives centre in Dudley has brought back memories for author William Stafford.

Walking past the site in Tipton Road has inspired the 48-year-old to put pen to paper.

Mr Stafford, of Old End Lane, Coseley, has written his seventh book called Poor Jacky, which has been published online by Andrews UK Ltd. His novels are based on Dudley but set in the fictional town of Dedley. During his student days, he worked for Dudley's library service and helped to move archives from Himley Hall to the archives building in Coseley, which is to be replaced by the centre in Dudley. "Walking past the site of the new Archives and Local History Centre next to the Black Country Living Museum, brought back memories of those days, and how creepy it was in that cellar."

Work should end in September.

Security camera to keep out park yobs

SECURITY in a Cradley Heath park has been stepped up in an effort to tackle anti-social behaviour.

CCTV has been installed in Haden Hill Park by the police and Sandwell Council to try to tackle the problem of youths gathering in the park.

Sandwell Council cabinet member for neighbourhood services Councillor Ian Jones said: "Because of some reports of anti-social behaviour in the park it has been agreed with the police to install one CCTV camera for the added security of the park users."

The installation of the camera was revealed during a live webchat with Inspector Ian Massey, the officer in charge of policing in south Sandwell.

During the talk he was told by one resident that the park is "often blighted by gangs of youths at night", and was asked if there are any plans to beef up police presence, lighting or rangers in the park.

In response, Inspector Massey said: "A great deal of partnership activity is taking place to tackle negative behaviour.

"If issues are escalating please report to it us."

Runner back for big race

A FORMER runner from Dudley is coming out of retirement for this year's London Marathon to raise awareness of Motor Neurone Disease.

Ian Corns, aged 44, of Kingswinford, who works for Wolverhampton City Council, has been spurred on by the fact that a colleague's son has been diagnosed with the condition.

The London Marathon takes place on April 21. Mr Corns has competed in four previously and said this was an opportunity he could not miss.

Sponsor him on the website www.virginmoneygiving.com/iancorns or telephone him on 01902 555502

Sailing sessions

TWO sailing tester sessions will take place in Himley Park near Dudley. They will be run on the Great Pool by Himley Sailing Club on April 27 and August 3. To book a place, call 01902 755149 or 07779 858688.

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100 trees will go in £2.6m work

AS many as 100 trees will be removed from a popular park as part of a £2.6million refurbishment project.

Dudley Council has lodged plans for the work at Stourbridge's Mary Stevens Park, which will include creating a new cafe and restoring the bandstand.

As part of the scheme, dozens of trees will need to be taken out.

Councillor Tracy Wood, said: "The proposed £2.6m of Heritage Lottery Fund improvements, which follow consultation with stakeholders and the Royal British Legion, would necessitate the removal of some of Mary Stevens Park's trees.

"Many of these trees are either causing damage to park infrastructure, are poor specimens or are immature and their removal would help us to increase the visibility of the war memorial.

"None of the trees are under preservation orders but Dudley Council always aims to replace trees that are felled by planting new ones across the borough."

Stourbridge resident Steph Simpson said she was concerned by the number of trees to be felled. "Even with the small amount of replanting proposed, this will not make up for the loss of mature habitat," she said.

Ideas call to combat flab

RESIDENTS are being asked to contribute ideas on how to battle the bulge in Dudley where six out of 10 people are overweight or obese.

Dudley's new Health and Wellbeing Board, which is made up of local GPs, council officers, councillors and volunteers, is drawing up a battle plan to fight obesity.

More than 138,000 adults and over 15,000 children, out of a population of more than 320,000, are facing potential future health problems because of their weight, the board says.

Chairman Councillor Zafar Islam said: "Tackling obesity is a priority." To take part visit www.dudley.gov.uk before April 15.

Wilson at Civic

FOUR-TIME Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter Steven Wilson will perform at Wolverhampton Civic Hall on October 17. Tickets for the show by the frontman of psychedelic rock band The Porcupine Tree cost £25.

Canal artery reopens after work on tunnel

A MAIN waterway artery through the Black Country has reopened following a £1.5million restoration project on an historic canal tunnel.

The Canal and River Trust fought off severe weather, vandals and thieves to finish the strengthening project half a mile within the Netherton Canal Tunnel, near Dudley, just a week after the scheduled date for completion.

The work, which took four months and involved 30 engineers, saw steel rods drilled into the walls and a concrete layer cemented to the archway to stabilise the a 160ft-long stretch of the brick tunnel.

The tunnel is a major route on the Birmingham Canal Navigations and has now reopened to both boats and walkers.

Vandalism

Project manager Lawrence Tall said: "We're pleased to have finished when we did, considering the minor problems we had of vandalism and thefts.

"Because we were so far down the tunnel, each time we had a breakdown, theft of tools or other matter, it could take up to two to three days to get everything back in place again to start work.

"The problems were a setback, but we soon managed each time to recover and we ended up only having to extend the project by one week."

The work was carried out by the trust after cracks began to appear in the brickwork section of the tunnel and tests showed the structure to be weakening.

Unlike in 1858 when the tunnel was built, workers were equipped with machinery to drill the rods into the walls, before installing a metal mesh, into which the concrete was cemented.

The canal had to be shut off as the equipment had to be carried down the waterway and positioned in the tunnel on moving water platforms.

Mr Tall said: "The work will keep that part of the tunnel stable for at least another 100 years – but there will be other parts of the tunnel we need to look at again within the next five to 10 years.

"I think it is worth it because, although the waterway may have limited use, it is a key link for the canal system in the Black Country and needs to be kept going. There is also the historical side to it ."

Taxi drivers plan a go-slow in protest over white cars

DUDLEY town centre could be brought to a standstill when taxi drivers stage a go-slow to show their anger after proposals to abolish a single car colour scheme were thrown out by councillors.

Dozens of vehicles are expected to take part in the protest before the authority's taxi committee meeting at 5.30pm on April 24 in a bid to highlight their concerns. More than 1,000 people have signed a petition, including drivers and their customers, asking the council to reverse its rules stating only white coloured private hire cars can be used around the borough. Taxi drivers claim it can cost up to £2,000 extra for white models due to recent popularity by celebrities pushing up prices. Drivers will make two laps of the town going directly past Dudley Council House, in Priory Road, on the evening of the meeting.

Around 600 members of Dudley Private Hire and Taxi Association are backing the action saying they have been left feeling "robbed" by the decision.

But Dudley Council's legal boss Councillor Gaye Partridge refused to back down saying the decision had been taken "as part of the fair and democratic process" by committee members.

Customers

The council says having a single colour scheme allows customers to safely identify fully licensed private taxis.

Taxi association chairman Shaz Saleem says the group intends to meet again next week to thrash out further details of the protest.

But Mr Saleem, who is managing director at Beacon Taxis, Sedgley and Express Taxis, Halesowen, says his drivers feel this is the only way to send a message to the council without holding a strike which could hurt customers.

"We want them to make a U-turn on this policy," he said. "We want to show how strong we feel about this and how angry we are because quite frankly we feel robbed."

Councillor Partridge, said: "We recently reviewed this policy to ensure it continues to safeguard the public and considered views from councillors, police and the taxi drivers. The committee voted in favour of keeping the policy as part of the fair and democratic process we have in place."

Deals rescue 90 local jobs at Metalrax

NEARLY 400 jobs – including more than 90 in the Black Country – have been saved as buyers snapped up parts of Metalrax.

Workers had been left fearing for their jobs after the group suspended its shares and called in administrators

But, within hours, deals were sealed that secured the jobs of a total of 387 people across the manufacturing group which has bases in Wolverhampton and Oldbury.

The Alvechurch group made kitchenware as well as carrying out specialist engineering work for clients such as JCB, Caterpillar and Jaguar Land Rover.

However, it had been brought to the brink by a funding crisis. Falling sales meant it wasn't bringing in enough money to keep the business running and attempts to secure additional funding had been unsuccessful. It had also suffered after the loss of a major contract to supply bakeware to the Morrisons supermarket chain last summer.

Metalrax bosses said they had no choice but to call in administrators KPMG for part of the group. But the housewares arm, including 37 people working at the Samuel Groves plant in Oldbury, was not included in the administration.

That has now been bought by a new company called Cable Capital Partners.

In a separate deal the main bulk of the Metalrax business, including 57 people at Cooper Coated Coil in Wednesfield and 77 in Redditch at Weston Body Hardware, has been bought by a group of companies headed by engineering firm Bowman Birmingham.

Religion seminar

RELIGIOUS Education and its place in UK schools will be the subject a seminar of education chiefs. A day seminar on the subject's future in the curriculum at the University of Worcester on June 19 is sponsored by the Culham St Gabriel's Trust and the St Peter's Saltley Trust, two educational charities.

Nurses raise £26,000 for room

Front, Kian Ruff-Mulhall, from Cradley Heath and the nurses who originally started the campaign, from left, retired Mary Williams, Ruth Russell, Juile Dale and Linda Taylor and behind is Yo Jo Jo, from the children's television programme Waybuloo

WHEN Linda Taylor and her nursing colleagues at Russells Hall Hospital set out to raise £26,000 they never thought they would make it.

Mrs Taylor and her colleagues Mary Williams and Ruth Russell had their sights set on a sensory room for the hospital's special needs children.

The three nurses and their play specialist colleagues were sick of the lack of play things for special needs children in the hospital. So four years ago they launched their own fundraising campaign.

Mrs Taylor, aged 56, said: "When we started we thought we'd be lucky to get a few hundred pounds but the community just felt so strongly about it."

Within about a year, they had made their £26,000 and were thrilled.

It then took a few years to get through various red-tape requirements such as finding a supply company.

Finally the sensory room opened a few months ago – but its journey was not over as the hunt began for a celebrity to perform the official opening ceremony. Mrs Taylor said: "We tried everyone we could think of. We tried Gary Barlow and got really close to getting Peter Andre but he had to pull out at the last minute."

However, Waybuloo, from CBeebies, happened to be visiting Merry Hill and agreed to open the sensory room.

Mrs Taylor said the room includes lights, a bubble tube with fish painted on it, noisy toys, a mirror ball and a projector with different slides. She added: "It has been so wonderful and made such a difference."

NEWS in brief

Libraries marking World Book Night

DUDLEY'S libraries will be celebrating World Book Night.

It is a celebration of reading and books and sees tens of thousands of volunteers share books on April 23.

Dudley Library's evening starts at 6pm with a quiz followed by a talk from Stourbridge author Miranda Dickinson.

Events at Halesowen Library will begin at 5.30pm including a book quiz with prizes.

At 6pm crime author Sam Hayes will be talking about her books.

Football match to give hospice boost

FORMER football stars will play a fundraising match for a Dudley hospice.

Ex-Aston Villa player Ken McNaught is leading the West Midlands All Stars against Stourbridge Old Boys at Stourbridge Football Club at the War Memorial Athletic Club, Amblecote High Street on April 21.

The match will raise money for Stourbridge's Mary Stevens Hospice. Gates open at noon. For tickets visit www.marystevens hospice.co.uk or call 01384 377778.

Kitten Put Put is rescued from tree

PUT Put the kitten has been grounded after a chilling escapade left her stranded 32ft up a tree for nearly two days in icy weather.

The six-month-old, black moggie was rescued by a firefighter who plucked it from the huge leylandii overhanging her owner Delysia Holford's garden in Bewdley. Mrs Holford, aged 80, couldn't coax it out of the tree.

Warning over car breakdown con

CONMEN have targeted motorists demanding cash for petrol in exchange for fake gold or jewellery.

Drivers in Stourton, near Stourbridge, were the latest to be targeted prompting a fresh police appeal.

The offenders park in laybys off main commuter roads and pretend their car has broken down.

Collectors wanted

CHRISTIAN Aid collections in Hagley need volunteers from May 12 to 18. Anyone interested in helping can call Mollie McPherson on 01562 886503, Kathy Francis on 01562 882442 or David Baines on 01562 884264.

NEWS FEATURE

IN MY VIEW WITH MARK ANDREWS

GLASS half full or half empty? Last month was the second coldest March on record. And the good news? Well imagine how much worse it would be without global warming.

❑❑❑❑❑❑

IF IAIN Duncan Smith has any sense, he will tactfully ignore the petition challenging him to prove he can live on £53 a week.

Many will remember how a rather silly young Tory MP called Matthew Parris tried a similar stunt, against the orders of the then Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, back in 1984.

For an episode of Granada television's World In Action programme, Parris spent a week living on £26.80, at the time the basic rate of unemployment benefit. It all started so well. Each meal was carefully planned, his black-and-white television was budgeted for, and by Friday he was looking rather pleased with himself.

Then come Saturday, for some inexplicable reason, he blew all his savings on a football match. And he wasn't even interested in football. It never occured to him that watching top-flight football was a luxury many working people struggle to afford, let alone people living on benefits.

His brush with the terraces meant spending Sunday night in darkness because he didn't have the money for the electricity meter. Parris did indeed prove that it was possible for him to live on unemployment benefit for a single week, but he also ended up looking a bit of a pratt.

Work and Pensions Secretary Mr Duncan Smith is wise to avoid such cheap tricks.

❑❑❑❑❑❑

IF Britain is a country truly committed to free speech, how come we still get phone bills?

❑❑❑❑❑❑

HAVE you clocked the barnet on the new 'young police and crime commissioner' Paris Brown? The 17-year-old has got a bigger mane than Lenny the Lion. But jesting aside, let's not go overboard about a few foul-mouthed rants she posted on Twitter when she was 14.

That old shrinking violet Keith Vaz MP has waded into the debate, saying he is "deeply shocked by the disclosures". What, a man of the world like Mr Vaz, shocked that a teenage girl behaves like an, erm, adolescent?

The real question is about the wisdom of her boss, Kent police and crime commissioner Anne Barnes, spending £15,000 of public money employing a teenager to advise her about policing matters. Maybe Mrs Barnes thought it would make her seem modern and innovative, or perhaps she just fancied a go at playing Alan Sugar and spotting tomorrow's talent.

As for the BBC man who reduced Paris to tears with his relentless grilling: it's not big and it's not clever.

Fownes Brewery at the Jolly Crispin pub in Dudley

Brewers Thomas and James Fownes behind the bar

Marverine is a strong advocate of ale for women

Watch out boys fem-ales have designs on the pint

Traditionally real ale is a male preserve but **CHARLOTTE LILLEY** has found a Black Country brewery which is seeking to change all that

CALL me old fashioned if you will but I've never liked the idea of women drinking pints, mainly because it doesn't look feminine.

But now one pub in Dudley is trying to change that attitude with a beer tasting session aimed specifically at women.

The Jolly Crispin in Clarence Street, wants to get more women strengthening their biceps and picking up a pint with an ale tasting class.

James and Tom Fownes, owners of Fownes Brewery in Upper Gornal, have organised the event to get rid of the mannish reputation of beer drinking.

Three new ales and a lot of lager will be on offer at the pub and television beer expert, Marverine Cole, will give a talk encouraging women to embrace a proper pint.

Advocate

"I am a big advocate for women drinking beer and would even go as far as saying it is a much better compliment to food than wine," she says.

"Many women think it is fattening, calorific and just for men, but that is not the case.

"I have been writing about the beauty of beer for three years and want to dispel the myth that women shouldn't be drinking it.

"The truth is, if you're going to drink 10 pints and then eat a kebab you will put on weight.

"But if you drink in moderation and really sample the flavours and the aroma, you will enjoy it.

"Men have been drinking pints of beer for years but now more women are taking an interest in it.

Marverine Cole is trying to enlighten more women to the joys of real ale

"There are lots of different flavours to try because some beers are made with grapefruit and others are made with honey, so there really is something out there for everyone."

A recent survey in Italy revealed that drinking beer can be good for your heart.

The study of 200,000 people found those who drank a pint a day had a 31 per cent decrease in heart disease risk.

A group on social networking site Facebook called Girls Who Drink Pints, appears to agree with the figures.

With more than 83,000 members, it advocates that women order a beer at the bar instead of a girly cocktail.

But while more women may be trying fruity beers and pale ale, there isn't a beer specifically for them.

So is this something James and Tom could branch out into?

"The female market has been the holy grail of larger breweries for some time, trying various marketing gimmicks to attract more female drinkers," says James. As a new business it would have been silly to ignore this potential customer base, so we decided to approach it through an education avenue.

"We were aware that the perception of real ale was changing from an old man's drink to a premium product enjoyed in community pubs and city centre bars alike, and having become aware of the work that Marverine was doing to encourage ladies to try beer and appreciate what it had to offer, we wanted to work with her and get ladies to look at beer with a fresh perspective."

One woman from Shropshire who saw a gap in the market and created a beer just for women is 24-year-old Harriet Easton.

She took matters into her own hands when she produced Harry's Beer in 2007.

Options

Although she went on to pursue other career options, James and Tom say the female market is still huge.

Tony Jerome spokesman for the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) says the industry is working together to show women their perceptions of beer are untrue.

"Real ale in the past has been seen by many women as flat and warm but the industry is playing a big role to show this is untrue and the numbers of women who have now tried real ale have doubled in the last four years," says Mr Jerome.

"Tasting sessions like the one being hosted by Fownes Brewery, are important ways of getting more people to try and drink British real ale which has led to an increase in sales in recent years."

Fownes was officially launched in October last year.

It produces 16 casks a week at the Clarence Street pub but work has begun to increase this number to 42 casks a week.

The ale tasting event will be held on April 16 at 6pm.

To book a place email info@fownesbrewing.co.uk or visit www.beerbeauty.co.uk to find out more about the benefits of drinking beer.

THROUGH THE YEARS

1983...

A REPORT by Manpower, the specialist employment agency, says firms in the West Midlands are facing a shortage of skilled workers, despite the lengthening dole queue. As many as two out of three employers in the region are unable to find enough skilled people, being sought by 63 per cent of employers.

A TEN-YEAR-OLD boy was hailed as a hero after rescuing a family of five from their blazing home in Birmingham. Roger Simpson dashed to get a ladder from his garden when he heard the gamily crying for help, marshalling the Rashid family from an upstairs window.

SCOUTS from Wolverhampton trekked 36 miles in preparation for their Duke of Edinburgh award. The lads from Penn Scouts set off from Church Stoke and completed the Shropshire Summits walk in just over 13 hours.

1993...

A FIREMAN braved thick choking smoke to rescue a Rottweiler trapped in a blazing Smethwick home. But far from being a dangerous, snarling animal, the timid puppy cowered behind an upstairs toilet and had to be dragged to safety.

HORSE riders in Sedgley got the bit between their teeth over plans to ban them from a popular beauty spot. Three hundred people signed a petition opposing a proposal by Dudley Council to fence off parts of Cotwall End Valley.

A WALSALL couple were living out on a limb in a "detached" house after all the surrounding properties were bulldozed. William Price and his wife Bridget were left isolated after Walsall Council demolished 38 hard-to-let properties in Shakespeare Crescent, Harden.

2003...

HUNDREDS of Sikhs took part in a procession between Wednesfield and Willenhall to mark one of the holiest days in the religious calendar. Congregations from two gurdwaras in the towns embarked on a two-hour march from one to the other to celebrate Vaisakhi.

DUDLEY Zoo unveiled their new logo featuring rare Sumatran tiger triplets Jambi, Padang and Banda. The previous logo featuring an elephant had to be replaced after the zoo decided to move their two elephants, Flossie and Flora to a new home.

PLANS to expand Wolverhampton Business Airport drew protests from residents living near the Halfpenny Green site. More than 550 people crammed into All Saints' Church, Claverley, to voice their concerns.

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LETTERS

Where is the common sense?

SO all these new changes have now been introduced relating to the benefit system and health care.

Not at a reasonable pace, but like the coming of a tsunami ready to hit when least expected.

People are rushing to downsize to a smaller property but where is all this extra accommodation? Those on low incomes will be worse off because governments would rather pay work related benefits than put pressure on certain businesses to pay a decent wage for a decent day's work.

The unemployed are placed in one basket and made to look lazy and nothing more than scroungers, demonised by the likes of politicians who live on another planet. I was made redundant from my last job through no fault of my own.

The health service is falling apart at the seams and under enormous pressure but still politicians continue to bring in changes, not because a better health service will be created but because it all saves money.

Any new party taking office always interferes with schools, the health service and welfare.

Every party knows best and acts accordingly.

There is one area, however, that never changes. The expenses and wages of politicians and councillors. If we are all in this together and everything needs to be fair, then why aren't any of these people willing to help?

Politicians and councillors need to get their "finger out" and start paying the price like the rest of us have to.

By the way, we are to open doors even wider at the end of this year and let more people into the country? Where is the common sense in this?

MARY WHITE
Roundhill Road
Dudley

£53 is fine when you can return to high life

IAIN Duncan Smith, says he can live on £53 per week.

It is all very well saying that, when he knows he has his millions to fall back on afterwards.

Anyone can live on that for a few weeks, he has to try it for the rest of his life.

Take away his big house, and his second property – that we pay for; take away his money, car and MP payment for good.

Then out of the £53 he will have to pay gas, electric, he will have to buy a computer and pay for broadband to search for a job.

If in the unlikelihood of finding a job, he will have to pay for transport for the interview. Then he might have enough left to pay for luxuries like food and drink.

Anyone can make stupid statements when we know it's only for a short time.

Show me an MP that is suffering.

NORMAN D CADDICK
Coseley

LETTERS to the Editor

POST
Dudley Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES

E-MAIL
Dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Thorny problem for the first-time buyers

ONCE again another idea on how to stimulate the housing market and get first-time buyers on the bottom rung.

Regretfully, there is no easy fix in regard to this. Now we have a position where first-time buyers on low incomes are unable to purchase, so those already on the ladder are unable to move.

When I was first on the property ladder, things were so much easier in some respects as we did not have all the "must haves" of modern life. Therefore, we need to prioritise what we want. Mortgages were always difficult to get, so things have not changed much.

We did go through a period of mortgages up to 125 percent of valuation, but look where we are now. Throwing money at people to help them buy is not the solution. We have to go back to square one. Possibly a tax rate of around 95 percent to land owners wanting to make huge profits on something which God provided in the first place and use that tax in order to reduce house prices. Something else which I suggested many years ago when I was a Mortgage Manager was to tax profits made on resale properties over and above the inflation rate from the date of purchase.

LEN HALES, Halesowen Road, Cradley Heath

Appalled at horse dowsed by yobs

I WAS appalled by the story about youths in Sedgley dowsing a horse in petrol and coming very close to setting it on fire.

If anything it was even more disconcerting the spokesman for the animal rescue group that saved the horses asked to remain anonymous for fear of reprisals.

Having these kind of vicious thugs roaming the streets of our area is not acceptable.

If anybody knows who these vile people are I would implore you to let the police know.

We must have these people taken off the streets and arrested I hope they will have a sufficiently strong sentence. This is an instance where the correct punishment is probably no longer on the statute books but a custodial sentence is the very least that is required.

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NEWS

Jack back in the water despite spinal problem

A SPORTS-mad Dudley man has spoken of how a painful condition almost ended his love of swimming – and how a four-week course helped improve his life.

Jack Settleton was diagnosed with scoliosis 18 months ago after experiencing weakness and pain around his shoulders.

Having previously been such a sporty teenager, the 18-year-old from Iverley Road, Halesowen, felt his world falling apart.

He said: "The pain was awful, I thought I was going mad. It started out of the blue and I got the impression people thought I was exaggerating.

"It was constant and I lost interest in everything, life basically. I lost a lot of my confidence and I guess you could say I became quite withdrawn."

Scoliosis causes the spine to excessively curve sideways and if left untreated can lead to fatal heart and lung problems.

Jack and his mother Carla, aged 46, were given a few options: basic physiotherapy once a week or surgery fusing his spine solid from top to bottom.

"I just hated the idea of having such a risky operation," said Jack.

He then turned to a London-clinic: Scoliosis SOS run by Erika Maude and began a four-week course five days a week to help his body. Gradually Jack's pain decreased. While he still has scoliosis and will have to continue his exercises, his condition has improved so much he is unlikely to need surgery. He said: "I love the water, I am passionate about swimming and I cannot imagine not being able to jump in."

Jack Settleton, aged 18 and from Halesowen, is now swimming again

Drama group recruiting

A DRAMA group wants new members. YETGA Theatre School, at Wednesfield Community Centre, Well Lane has just finished its production called Smelly Boy and Princess Yuk, and is looking to recruit. The class, on Wednesdays from 4 to 6pm, is for anyone aged 11 or under. It costs £5 per session. Call 07780524915 or email info@yetga.co.uk

Plans for 96 homes sent for scrutiny

MORE than 90 homes could be built on former industrial land under new plans lodged with council chiefs.

Derelict buildings on the land off Delph Road, Brierley Hill, will be demolished by Orchard Park Properties Ltd, if the development is approved.

Developers say the housing estate will help to breathe new life into the site, which has been lying empty for more than a decade having previously been home to several manufacturers.

The proposals, which will see 96 one to five-bedroom homes built on the land, have been submitted to Dudley Council.

The existing buildings are said to be in a state of disrepair. There is also a redundant car park and loading area.

A planning statement, submitted by agent David Leadbetter, says: "The proposals provide for a high quality residential development incorporating a mix of types, styles and size of houses including the affordable homes on site."

The main access to the site, which is near the Stourbridge Canal, will be from Delph Road. The plans will be considered within the next three months and neighbouring households and businesses have been consulted on the proposals.

Ward councillor Zafar Islam said he was pleased the site may be transformed.

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NEWS

Vinyl given new spin

Corina Harper, arts co-ordinator at the Boars Head Gallery, with some of the decorated vinyl records

Old vinyl records are being given a fresh spin in an exhibition at a pub in the Midlands.

There have been about 200 entries for the open display being staged in the gallery at the Boars Head pub in Kidderminster.

People have been invited to donate their old unloved vinyl records and decorate them for show as part of the lead-up to International Record Store Day this month.

Corina Harper, the 30-year-old arts co-ordinator at the gallery, said: "We thought we would try something a little different. The exhibition involves people decorating old vinyl records.

"Artists, musicians and local townfolk including a youth group have responded to the challenge of creating a piece of art by using a 12-inch record for a base.

"The exhibition will run until the end of the month and could become a touring exhibition as the Worcester Arts Workshop has already shown interest."

Information on voters is sold on to companies

COUNCIL chiefs have admitted they were not happy about laws obliging them to sell on the names and addresses of tens of thousands of voters, as the identities of those who bought the details emerged.

by Alex Homer

Details from electoral registers were sold to many groups, including credit agencies, gym clubs, window firms and political parties.

Councils said laws bound them to sell on details from the full and edited electoral registers for negligible amounts.

The sales have brought in less than £1,000 for all of the councils.

Voters are being urged to opt out of the edited electoral register, if they did not want their details to be shared, as it is available for general sale and can be used for commercial activities like marketing

John Polychronakis, chief executive of Dudley, added: "The edited register is available for general sale and can be used for any purpose.

"It can be bought by any person, company or organisation and can be used for commercial activities."

Councillor Chris Towe, Walsall's finance and personnel chief, said: "Despite carrying out a consultation with local authorities about ending the sale of what's known as the edited version of the register in 2009/10, the Government made no changes to the current legislation.

"So it leaves us in awkward situation.

"The amount of junk mail I receive at home annoys me immensely and frankly, if I had my way we wouldn't want to be any part of this process."

"Councils have no say whatsoever in the matter, as the law specifically allows anybody, including direct marketing companies to purchase the edited version of the register.

"I'd like to remind people that you can 'opt out' of having your details included in the edited version by ticking a box the next time you receive the electoral registration form."

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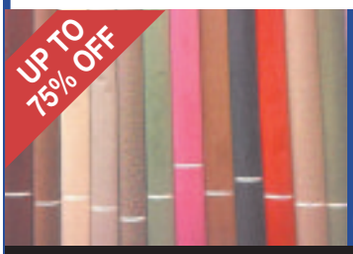

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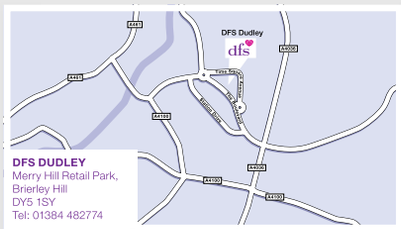

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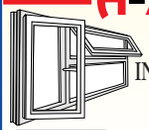

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NEWS

Developers praised for leading town's revamp

DEVELOPERS going head-to-head in a bid to bring major supermarkets into the heart of Dudley have been championed for leading the town's rejuvenation.

Councillors say the ambitious plans will put Dudley on the map. Old eyesore office tower blocks, derelict buildings and under-used public car parks would be transformed under the separate proposals.

All three schemes are vying to bring one of the country's main supermarket chains to the town centre.

Developer Commercial Estate Group has won approval for its modern, glass fronted 27,000 sqft store on the land between Flood Street and King Street.

Falcon House in The Minories, which dates back to the 1960s, will be demolished as part of the project. It is used as offices, but is 75 per cent empty. The new complex will be linked to the centre by walkways.

A car park below the £20 million complex will have space for 278 vehicles. The scheme will create up to 500 new jobs and bring much-needed redevelopment to King Street.

Planning committee chairman Councillor Rachel Harris, speaking at a meeting last week, said she was unconcerned by the loss of the Falcon House offices as there was better quality premises in other parts of the borough like Castlegate.

She added: "What I like about this plan is as you come in along Duncan Edwards Way, Dudley Southern Bypass, you will see a town instead of a mass of car parking."

Music festival for pupils

YOUNG musicians from the Wyre Forest will have the chance to display their talents at a five-day event. Youth Makes Music will take place at Kidderminster Town Hall, Vicar Street, on April 30, May 1, 2, 8 and 9.

The event is open to primary and secondary schools in the area.

Further information is available by calling Louise Gardner on 01562 732980.

Ex-Baggies star at sale

With auction items, Bob Taylor and event organiser Paul Millard, of Upper Gornal, at Monty's Wine Bar, Sedgley

FORMER Albion star 'super' Bob Taylor was the guest of honour at a disco and auction to raise money for a good cause.

The striker was at Monty's Wine Bar in Sedgley to help Paul Millard raise the money to run the London Marathon. Road worker Mr Millard, aged 39, wants to take part in the event on April 21 as a homage to his long-term friend Leighton Hall, who has just won his battle against bowel cancer. He needed to raise £2,000 to take part.

Money raised will go to the Bobby Moore Foundation, which Mr Hall, 40, expressed a desire to support during his chemotherapy.

Father-of-two Mr Millard, of Eve Lane, Lower Gornal said: "Leighton said he wanted to give something back and I said 'don't worry, I'll sort it," he said. The event at the High Street venue featured live music acts.

The auction saw items such as signed West Bromwich Albion and Wolves shirts go under the hammer.

Mr Millard had raised £1,000 before the event started and then smashed his £2,000 target by achieving £1,500 in ticket sales.

Mr Millard, who knows Mr Hall from their days playing for Tividale Football Club together, arranged for Bob Taylor to attend.

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COMMERCIAL FEATURE

Don't be disappointed - choose Choices Windows

The home improvement market is changing and the demand for more choice in colour and suitability of PVC-U doors and windows is growing. Fashionable additions such as orangeries are increasingly desirable, as more people look for ways to improve their home.

Established since 1994, Tipton Windows & Conservatories Ltd, trading as Choices , believe that the latest trends are important, but quality products and exceptional service will always be paramount, which this family run business have proven over nearly two decades.

Situated on Sedgley Road West in Tipton, the founder and company Managing Director Nathan Beddows started the business from scratch at the early age of 19 working out of the very same premises as he does today, He explains his passion:

"I cannot stress enough how much pride we take in every window, door, conservatory, orangery we manufacture and install."

With its roots in manufacturing, the business started more than 19 years ago, and right from the very start an emphasis has been placed on supplying only the finest and most energy-efficient products, but still remaining affordable.

"Our commitment extends beyond the manufacturing process to the design and installation of doors, windows, conservatories and other home improvement services," explains Nathan.

"For some customers we supply new windows and doors, for others we provide a complete home improvement service from building extensions and fitting kitchens, to designing and installing conservatories and more recently Orangeries," says Nathan.

One tremendously satisfied customer is Rick Houghton. Having being recommended to Choices Windows by colleagues at work he employed them to carry out extensive work at his home, he is keen to share his experiences and commend the team involved.

"Every stage of the process was excellently planned and we received nothing but the best service from start to finish. The tradesmen were outstanding and we were so impressed that we handed over our keys and went on holiday whilst the work was being carried out."

Rick and his family were absolutely thrilled and utterly delighted with the results on their return.

"We are so grateful to Nathan and his team for transforming our home into something we could only have dreamed of," remarked Rick.

Keen to keep ahead in the style stakes, Nathan is ever aware of the latest designs, materials and colours on offer, and strives to make these available to his customers.

"Many people are now opting for stylish coloured PVC-U, influenced by timeless muted 'National Trust' tones. Sage green, gun metal grey and cream are all becoming very fashionable alongside the traditional clean bright white," explains Nathan.

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Mother Kerry showing how to be a bright spark

WORKING mother, part-time soldier and student at a Dudley college Kerry Hyland has shown what a bright spark she is.

Kerry, aged 29, has earned a place as one of the country's best female apprentices over the age of 25 at the Women in Construction Awards.

The electrical installation apprentice at Stourbridge College after switching from previous jobs in retail and hospitality.

Kerry, from Stourport-on-Severn, funded herself through a City & Guilds level-two course in electrical installation and secured an electrical apprenticeship at The Community Housing Group so she could finish her level-three course one day a week.

At the Women in Construction Awards in Manchester Kerry was selected as a finalist for Best Apprentice/New Starter aged 25 and Over.

She said: "I have a busy and hectic lifestyle, looking after my 11-year-old daughter, working full-time, studying as well as being a member of the Territorial Army during the evenings and at weekends.

"I wanted a career that would be physically and mentally challenging and I always push myself to achieve more. More women should look at working in construction and I'm really pleased my efforts have been recognised nationally at the Women in Construction Awards.

"Even though I didn't win the overall award, just to have been nominated and chosen as a finalist has been a great boost to my confidence."

Council tax spread out

HUNDREDS of people have taken up the offer of spreading the cost of their council tax bills under a new scheme set up to help cash-strapped households.

Councils have been told to allow people to pay their bills over 12 months rather than the usual 10 month period.

Traditionally, authorities have collected the rent over 10 months to ensure they have got all the money in to pay for services by the end of the financial year.

But new rules passed by Parliament require all councils to allow people to pay over 12 months if they wish.

Some authorities, such as Wolverhampton, Walsall and Cannock Chase, already offered the service and receive payments from thousands of people each year spread over 12 months.

Other councils have agreed to let hundreds of ratepayers spread the cost from next week.

In Sandwell, 453 households will pay over 12 months out of 128,000 while in Dudley a further 450 will do so.

South Staffordshire Council has agreed to let 153 pay over the course of a year while Wyre Forest has made arrangements for 102 payers.

Lichfield District Council has 157 accounts out of 43,300 paying over 12 months and Stafford Borough Council is providing the service for 730.

In Walsall, where the scheme was already offered, 26,203 people pay every month – 24 per cent of all accounts.

Figures were not available for Wolverhampton City Council but spokesman Tim Clark said it was the most popular form of payment for many.

Cannock Chase has also been offering 12 monthly direct debit payments for years and has more than 4,000 people who pay that way.

Sandwell Council's deputy leader Councillor Steve Eling said: "It is a new government ruling but judging by the figures, it would appear that the vast majority of people prefer to continue with the 10-month payment and have two free months."

Travellers have gone

DOZENS of illegally camped travellers have left a Stourport car park.

The travellers had arrived at the Riverside car park on Good Friday, bringing about 50 caravans with them.

Wyre Forest District Council was left in the position of not being able to apply for a court order to remove them until courts reopened after the Easter holiday.

However, council leader Councillor John Campion said the travellers had left town, leaving the council to clean-up. He said: "The rubbish has been kept to a minimum."

Memorial architect's son backs campaign

David Lewis, the son of the architect John T Lewis, is supporting the campaign for the memorial to be restored

RELATIVES of the architect who designed Dudley's original Churchill Precinct have joined the campaign to restore a stained glass mosaic that formed the centrepiece of the site.

The work, a memorial to war-time leader Sir Winston Churchill, took pride of place in the centre from its opening in 1969 until the early-1990s. It was decided to take down the mosaic after vandalism and weather damage took its toll, and is now in storage.

But Dudley North MP Ian Austin recently launched a campaign to get the memorial restored in time for the 50th anniversary of Mr Churchill's death in 2015.

It has received support from the community – with the son of the architect responsible for devising the piece as part of his plans for the precinct now adding his approval.

David Lewis, aged 58, of Wordsley, said he had worked to generate interest in getting the work restored himself for many years but had not been successful.

Delighted

"I am delighted there has been renewed interest in getting the mosaic restored," he said. "It is the most spectacular piece of art never to achieve national fame.

"I have tried to create some interest in the work in the past as I thought it would have been an ideal piece to go on display in Stourbridge's Glass Quarter. However, it fell on deaf ears at the time. I am fully supportive of this campaign and will try to help in any way I can."

David's father, John T Lewis, worked as Borough Architect from 1952 until his death in 1968 and both envisaged and designed the original Churchill Precinct and Birdcage Walk. He was friends with world-renowned artist Edward Bainbridge Copnall, who made the piece, depicting scenes from Churchill's life, a reality.

Unfortunately John, better known as JT, did not live to see his design completed as he died of lung cancer in 1968, aged 54. David and his mother, Eileen, were guests of honour at the opening of the centre in 1969, joining the dignitaries on the main stage at the ceremony.

Developers wanted to build council housing

DEVELOPERS are being sought to help build the first new council houses in Wolverhampton for three decades. Council chiefs in the city have set £5million aside to build the new homes over the course of the next five years.

The first site to be brought forward is a seven-acre plot off Thompson Avenue, Ettingshall. Council bosses said they are now looking for a development partner to help build the new homes. Wolverhampton City Council's Gurdip Thandi said: "The tendering process for developers is under way and a decision should be made by the end of May."

The last council homes to be built in Wolverhampton were in Pendeford in the 1980s.

The authority is looking at other sites in the city such as council-owned garages to see where more new homes could be built.

The project has been launched after the number of council-properties in the city dwindled as tenants took up the right to buy their homes.

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NEWS

£7m rail compensation scheme deadline moved

A £7 MILLION compensation scheme for rail passengers in the Midlands who suffered months of disruption has been extended to try and get more people to claim free travel.

For more than two months at the end of last year London Midland passengers were forced to check for daily updates on whether or not their trains would even run, while many were forced to get off miles away from their destination and change to other services.

The problems came after more than 30 drivers left the firm within a short space of each other last year, meaning the company could not fulfill all of its timetable commitments.

Bosses have since said they have addressed the driver shortage while agreeing the compensation package with the Department for Transport.

But now they have had to extend the amount of time people have to claim compensation in a bid to get more to come forward. The scheme has been extended until April 30. Season ticket holders who were affected by the problems are allowed to claim five days of free travel across the London Midland network.

The firm has also said it will offer half a million cheap fares on routes between Birmingham and London, Crewe and Liverpool, and spend £2.25m on improvements for passengers, mainly in the West Midlands.

Those who qualify for compensation can find our more information by visiting www.londonmidland.com

Event to aid Parkinson's

PARKINSON'S Awareness Week will be marked with a public display and information stand in Wolverhampton's Mander Centre on April 19. The lower level of the shopping centre will host the event outside the Mothercare store from 9am until 4pm. Collection boxes will be available for donations.

Felicity is in the semis

Felicity Cox, aged 13, of Stourbridge, who has made it through to the semi-finals of a singing competition being held next month

A TEENAGED singer from Dudley will compete against fellow hopefuls from around the country after making it through to the semi-final of a competition.

Felicity Cox, of Stourbridge, wowed judges at the Birmingham NEC to earn her place in the next round of the popular Teen Star event.

The 13-year-old, of Rufford Road, will now perform in the semi-final of the competition on May 26.

The event will be held at Huddersfield Town Hall and Felicity will pit her singing skills against hopefuls from other regions, including Manchester and Liverpool.

She had not yet decided what song she will perform. The youngster performed Skinny Love, originally by Birdy, at the last stage of the competition. Her father Paul said everyone was very proud of Felicity and her achievements.

"We are really looking forward to the next stage of the competition. Felicity has entered other events in the past and has done extremely well," he said.

"At the moment she is still deciding what to sing in the competition. We will be looking at three or four songs over the next few weeks and picking the best one."

Mr Cox said his daughter, who attends the Redhill School in Junction Road, Stourbridge, had first started singing around three years ago. A Youtube post of her singing an Eva Cassidy song received high praise.

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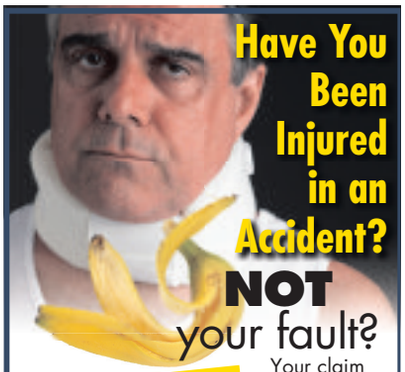

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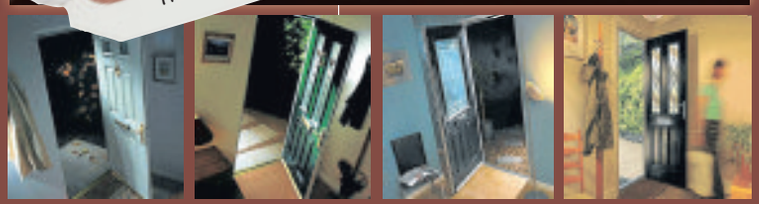

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NEWS

Ex-director and Mr Fixit Ernie has died, aged 85

RETIRED works director Ernie Woodhall – renowned among his friends for his "ingenious" knack for fixing problems – has died aged 85.

Ernie Woodhall

Mr Woodhall, who followed in his late father's footsteps as works director at one of Dudley's biggest employers, Ewarts Ltd at Burnt Tree Island, even once rigged up a pulley system for a friend who had broken his arm to exercise his way to recovery. Mr Woodhall, from Lower Gornal, Dudley, died in Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital, four days after an operation following a diagnosis of bowel cancer.

He started training at the age of 15, under an engineering apprenticeship at W&T Avery, Smethwick. He then became works manager at Ewarts Ltd, where his father, Harold, was works director.

After Harold retired, his son stepped in as works director for the firm.

Ernie Woodhall used to lecture in maths and engineering at Dudley Technical College, as well as working at Ewarts.

His daughter, Janice said: "He was always on the go and did a lot of gardening and DIY and went out fixing things for himself and other people." Keen angler Mr Woodhall died on March 20. His funeral was held at Gornal Wood Crematorium.

Drama group in appeal

A NEW drama group in Dudley is looking for more members. Hippo Drama Group is aimed at people who have little or no stage experience. It wants people to join ahead of their first production Dinnerladies.

Based at St Augustine of Hippo Church, Hallchurch Road, Holy Hall, Dudley, members meet on Tuesdays from 7 to 9pm and costs £2 per week. Members must be 16 or over. There will be an open evening on April 16. Call 07954 692593.

Booted up for walks

From left, Tracy Wood and Michael Cliff, from Action Heart, with Dawn Smith outside Himley Hall

RAMBLERS are lacing up for an annual walking festival which kicks off later this month.

The Dudley Walking Festival, which attracts thousands, includes springtime walks across the borough one of which is the popular Dudley Borough Trail.

It will start with a charity bluebell walk at Cotwall End Valley on April 27.

The walk is free but participants are asked to make a small donation to the Georgina unit at Russells Hall Hospital.

On April 28 walkers can enjoy the wildflower in a wander around Saltwells while on April 29 there will be the chance to join the Leasowes trail in Halesowen. Residents can discover a historical Himley Hall and Park with a gentle walk around its stunning grounds at 10am on April 30.

There will also be a guided tour on the evening at 6.30pm, where participants will explore the park's ancient woodland. On May 2 there will be a circular fitness walk around the Clent Hills.

There will be an easy access trail on May 4 around Himley Hall and Park estate at 2pm and places can be booked by calling 01384 817817.

The festival will conclude on May 5 with the Dudley Borough Trail.

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MEMORY LANE

Young and old, many in the Sunday best, gather to state their case

Large numbers of strikers and their families gather in the town centre

Women queue for bread for their families as the strike takes hold

When thousands joined strike that left many on the verge of starvation

Shopkeepers showed their support for strikers seen waiting in the Market Place for handouts of free food

IT was a mass protest that left Black Country workers on the verge of starvation and created ripples felt nationally.

by David Lumb

And now, 100 years on, events have been organised to commemorate the anniversary of the 1913 Wednesbury Tube Strike.

It saw thousands of men in the Black Country come out in support of workers seeking wage parity with their Birmingham colleagues who were earning 23 shillings a week, which was still a low wage for the time.

Freelance writer and history enthusiast Brendan Hawthorne, who recently gave a lecture at Wednesbury Library, said although it is a story of hardship, austerity and tragic consequences, there are still comic moments, funny stories and music to lighten the dark times.

"There are so many parallels with today. The balance of standing up for your rights but also putting food on the table is still in evidence a hundred years on," he said. The strike started on May 9 when 200 workers from Crown Works demanded higher wages. Large numbers of strikers gathered in the Market Place.

It spread across the Black Country, and in a matter of weeks, there were up to 50,000 people involved.

During the unrest, families struggled for basic food items and relied on charity to help them through the tough times.

Shopkeepers showed their support by giving away free food, there were visits to the region by major figures such as the trade unionist Tom Man, and there were marches to London and south Wales.

After three months of unrest, the strikers returned to work after the employers agreed on a minimum wage of 22 shillings a week for unskilled labourers.

Mr Hawthorne, of Wharfdale Street, Wednesbury, added: "So little is known about this event that I feel I need to show the townsfolk of Wednesbury how strong-minded and brave their ancestors were."

Wednesbury historian Paul Fantom will be giving a talk to Wednesbury History Society on May 7.

"I think this is a period that has been overlooked by historians but it is of huge importance," said Mr Fantom, aged 45.

"This protest sparked a growth in trade unionism. You went from a situation where workers were on 18 shillings a week – and we have social research saying a family needed a minimum of 21 shillings a week to survive – to an improved standard of living.

"It's something that should be celebrated for the impact it had on communities."

Mr Fantom's talk is expected to take place at Wednesbury Museum and Art Gallery. Call 0121 556 0683 for information.

Brandon Hawthorn said although the strike had tragic consequences it still had its comic moments

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FANTASTIC 8 DAY TOUR - GREAT VALUE

St Anton is a World famous Ski Resort and offers wonderful views, excellent walks and a relaxing summer experience.

SUNDAY

Early morning departure to join our crossing to France. We continue to Limburg for our overnight stay. A lovely town on the German Lahn Valley.

MONDAY

A Full Buffet Breakfast before we rejoin our Coach. We travel through dramatic scenery to Austria and continue to the resort of St Anton where we stay for five nights.

We meet for a welcome cocktail before Dinner.

TUESDAY - FRIDAY

During the week you can discover and explore this lovely Tyrol resort.

The St Anton Tourist Office can advise you of any special events during the summer season including Festivals, Concerts and Parades.

They can also give you maps, information, details on the many Sport Facilities and dates for Cable Cars and when the Orient Express stops in the town.

We include a half day visit to the wonderful City of Innsbruck and two optional excursions will be available.

These will be a day to the Ziller Valley and the colourful resort of Mayrhofen and a superb day to Lake Constance to include a visit to Lindau, a boat transfer to Bregenz and Apple Strudel on return.

We also include a superb Tyrolean Evening with local Singers and Dancers, together with two complimentary drinks - A great night!

SATURDAY

An early Breakfast before we journey through Germany and into Belgium, where we spend our last evening in the historic City of Leuven.

Here at the Novotel Hotel we include Dinner and maybe time to walk into the beautiful centre.

SUNDAY

A full Hot or Cold Buffet Breakfast and then we make out way towards the Coast, travelling into France and onwards to join our Afternoon return Eurotunnel train back to the UK.

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- Welcome Cocktail
- Buffet Breakfasts
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- Light Entertainment in Hotel
- Tyrolean Evening
- Excursion to Innsbruck

Departure Dates

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June	2	£395.00
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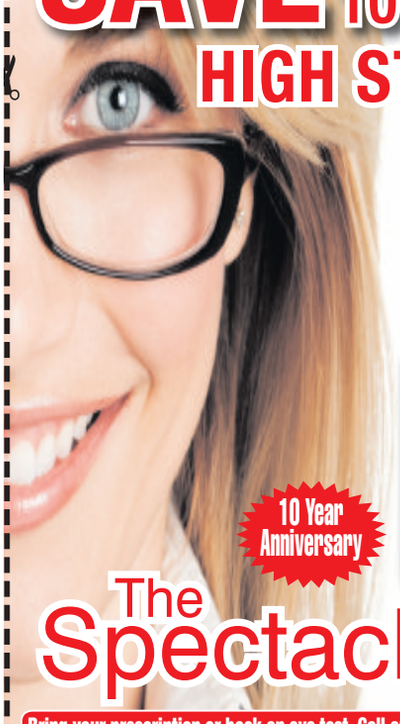

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CLUB NEWS

Chocolate bunnies for quiz winner

BLACKHEATH M TWG

THE March meeting, opened by chairman Doreen Armstrong, also included the AGM.

Doreen welcomed those in attendance and praised them for braving the severe cold and icy conditions.

Monthly reports were given by treasurer Beryl Hartley, outings co-ordinator Brenda Ellesmere and Press officer Iris Harris.

Three ladies received prizes of soap bunnies in the monthly raffle.

Iris Harris opened the AGM. The general report was produced and read by Doreen Smith and accepted by members. She was given a vote of thanks.

The treasurer presented her report which was adopted and seconded and she was given a vote of thanks. A small change was announced to standing orders.

Iris then announced the committee for the next year.

Doreen presented a bouquet of flowers to Evelyn Edwards, who was retiring after more than 13 years on the committee.

The ladies then relaxed to enjoy a quiz, won by Chris Turner who was presented with a chocolate bunny. Doreen read and poem and three games of bingo followed. Prizes were again chocolate bunnies. The day ended with tea, coffee, biscuits and fresh cream cakes.

The speaker at the April 24 meeting will be David Berry on "A Day in Court".

Guest speaker tells of charity work in Kolkata

Marilyn Bose was the guest speaker

MYTIME OVER FIFTIES

THE March meeting began with a talk from Mrs Marilyn Bose entitled "Mother Teresa and Calcutta."

Mrs Bose is the widow of a well-known Wolverhampton GP who maintained both professional and personal links with his birthplace Calcutta, now Kolkata. They worked with Bilston Rotary Club to raise donations for Mother Teresa's Charity and were invited to meet her.

Marilyn describes Mother Teresa as tiny, inspiring, with a super sense of humour and the ability to speak many languages. Marilyn as been visiting Kolkata for 27 years, spending a month at a time working wherever she is sent. Marilyn spoke of the charity work being carried out and showed off the hand-made teddy bears and knitted vests that volunteers make for the orphans.

Following a short tea break Ms Maggie Thompson from Age UK Dudley gave an interesting talk on the leisure and exercise activities available through the LEAP Over 50 project.

On April 24 John Billingham will describe "Our Stour from Clent to Stourport".

Tour of Commons enjoyed

PERTON JUBILEE TOWNSWOMEN

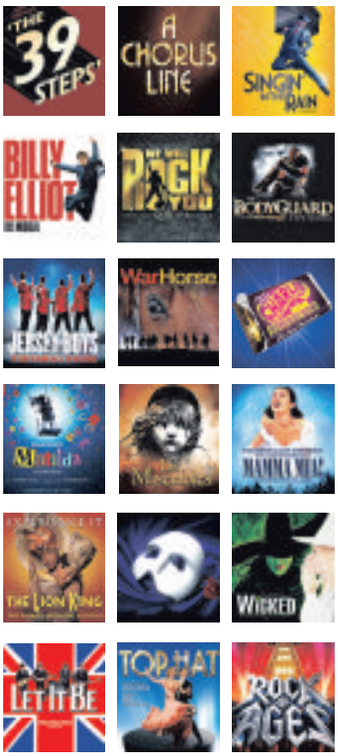
AT the AGM in March the committee agreed to continue for the forthcoming year. After the business was completed, the guild enjoyed a cheese and wine supper.

The ladies were also invited by South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson to visit the Houses of Parliament. They were met and given a conducted tour by Mr Williamson and his assistants. The MP also gave a talk on the history of Parliament.

Later in March, the club enjoyed a meal at The Fox of Shipley to celebrate the guild's birthday.

Seven members will join the Federation's three-day break to attend the national AGM at Harrogate.

star extra TRAVEL London Theatre Breaks



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**The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details.*
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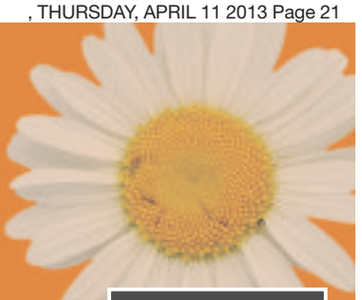

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(T&C's below)

ABBY is a passionate sexy girl seeking some fun times. **Tel: 0905 002 1956 Box No: 373603**

SUSAN 49, fun loving, 5ft 2ins, brown hair/eyes, many interests, needs heart mending. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 204862**

FUN loving lady, outgoing, honest, caring, likes socialising, seeks older male, 50-70. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 383325**

KIND romantic female, 50, seeking a male to talk, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 368429**

LOVING caring young 67yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim size 12, brown hair, likes meals out, GSOH, smoker, seeks slim, smart male with GSOH, 58-62. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 364651**

TINA fun loving single mum who enjoys most things in life, seeking happy guy with GSOH for meals in, dates out, possible romance and adult companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403567**

CAROL, discreet, married, 47yrs seeks man for fun times. **Tel: 0905 002 1957 Box No: 400499**

AMY 19yr old single female looking for much older naughty male for discreet fun times only. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403381**

SHARON medium built lovely, 33yrs, pale complexion, nice eyes, feminine, outgoing, confident, enjoys varied interests, WLTM all round nice guy for adult relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403345**

CAROL South African lonely heart 37yrs, looking for fun with mature gent 50plus, likes dining in/out, discretion assured/appreciated. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403337**

WIDOW seeking similar aged male to share holidays and weekends out. Car owner preferred. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 389795**

CARING lady, 52, brown hair/eyes, seeks male, 30-60 for socialising, meals out, cinema, music, sports and having a laugh. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392883**

LONG haired blonde, 37, enjoys meals out but would love to cook a romantic meal for the man of her dreams. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 361076**

TALL curvy female, 36dd, loves music, looking for fun and romance with dark male. Give me a call. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 359238**

61YR old lady 5ft 2ins, medium build, long dark hair, smoker, seeks smart gent who wants to get out and about for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396409**

BLONDE tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384852**

FEMALE looking for gent, 65-70, caring, loving and independent. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378295**

BIG bubbly black female, single mum, looking for male for nights in and out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392501**

DAWN attractive, slim female, 45, N/S, no ties, WLTM tall, fit male with get up and go attitude towards life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375825**

YOUNG looking, pretty female, 40, brunette, slim, no ties, N/S, seeks attractive, refined male for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 313115**

JANICE 40, 5ft 5ins, medium build, brown eyes, likes music, cooking, cosy nights in/out, seeks similar male for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397407**

GAIL 52, blonde hair, 5ft 2ins, likes nights out, seeks N/S male, 50-60 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402041**

GRACE Jones lookalike, black lady, 53, 5ft 11ins, OHAC, WLTM male, 45-65, 6ft plus for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397681**

35YR old female, seeks intelligent, down to earth male, 50-75 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388297**

BIG is beautiful! Female looking for someone to share a life time of happiness with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 368528**

SLIM fit, bubbly female can't wait to meet a tall, slim, fit, mature male who thinks he can keep up. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 367066**

ATTRACTIVE lady, GSOH, slim, dark hair, 50's, likes walks, films, art, meals out, seeks male with GSOH and similar interests for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 399245**

CARLA 41, brown hair/eyes, 5ft 2ins, loving, seeking male who likes walks, cinema and romantic meals. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396127**

43YR old female, bubbly, down to earth, trustworthy, honest, caring, seeks male, 45 plus. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402945**

IRENE 55, blonde hair, brown eyes, loving, caring, genuine, N/S, lots of love to give, seeks male, 55-60 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392807**

62YR old female, widowed, small, slim, attractive, kind, outgoing, likes meals out, dancing, holidays, nights in, seeking professional gent. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394106**

BERNIE Beautiful black lady with no ties seeks her King, curvy, intelligent, feminine and all you will ever need, what are you waiting for? Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402991**

ALISON 37 animal loving female who enjoys a quiet life, cooking, seeks older respectful male 42-60yrs to enjoy meals out and cosy nights in. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402793**

HI I am Sara 21, a petite single mum, sporty, caring and looking for reliable, well groomed male 30-40yrs for adult 1-2-1. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402771**

SARAH 23, attractive, brunette, slim, looking for male for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392979**

APRIL big bubbly 21yr old female who enjoys nights in/out, music, WLTM caring, loving older male, 30-45yrs. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402789**

JEANETTE 35, blonde blue eyed attractive active nurse who really cares about people, WLTM someone genuine and honest to fall in love with. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402655**

LISA 30's tall slim beauty looking for dining partner to romance, pamper and appreciate me in return for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402645**

BLONDE tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384852**

LOVING caring young 68yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim-medium build, size 12, smoker, seeks slim, well-dressed guy with GSOH for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 399923**

SINGLE MEN

Ladies Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people. Send : CHAT207 To : 65125.

(T&C's below).

29YR old male, likes holidays, cinema, clubs, seeks female for friendship and fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403759**

ROBERT 72, young looking, retired carpenter, N/S, non-drinker, seeks kind, black lady in Wolverhampton area. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403641**

45YR old British Asian male, 5ft 9ins, slim-medium build, kind, caring, GSOH, likes romantic meals, nights in, films, music, walks, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403631**

DARREN young looking 37, likes pubs, clubs, cinema, meals out, cosy nights in, seeks female 18-37. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392049**

45YR old British Asian male, 5ft 9ins, slim-medium build, kind, caring, GSOH, likes romantic meals, nights in, films, music, walks, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403631**

GARY kind, caring, seeks special lady, any age for fun times and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403585**

MIKE 45, bored, seeks female, any age for adult fun and good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403461**

JOHN 59, 5ft 8ins, OHAC, GSOH, seeks lady, 46-55, likes meals out and in. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403273**

SINGLE male, 60, WLTM local lady with strong physical needs for regular contact with no commitment initially. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 377459**

ATTRACTIVE male, late 40's, seeks attractive female for fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 311713**

BRIAN 60's, ordinary man, strong needs, seeks affectionate lady for close friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396765**

ATTRACTIVE male, 55, seeks older female, 50-70 for close, adult fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397189**

60'S male, medium build, fit, high drive, seeks West Midlands lady who needs occasional male evening/weekend company. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 381307**

MICHAEL 50, nice eyes, seeking female companion for holidays and weekends away, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401479**

STEVE 63, tall, fit, young outlook, likes travel, socialising, holidays, N/S, seeks local lady, 55-60 for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402931**

MALE 5ft 8ins, athletic, GSOH, seeks older lady for fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402357**

GENUINE male, 54, own home, seeks female, any age for fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 368871**

SHROPSHIRE male, 53, tall, dark, attractive, seeks attractive female for fun and excitement, any age/status. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 367373**

PAUL 60, medium build, fit, virile with strong needs, WLTM West Midland lady for regular mutual pleasure. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 374821**

PATRICK 60's, single, likes sports, music, reading, seeks lady friend to share evenings/weekend meetings together. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396053**

MALE 47, 5ft 9ins, brown hair/eyes, slim-medium build, likes nights out, GSOH, seeks special female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 302861**

JIMMY 53 good looking, fit, genuine, honest, very loving and looking for the same in a woman. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397157**

TALL dark, attractive guy, 49, seeks attractive, younger female for fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 316752**

MALE 60, strong needs, seeks similar lady for regular evening/weekend meetings. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384219**

CARL 40, likes DVDs, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393766**

HARDWORKING 41yr old male, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403131**

KARL 40, fun loving, caring, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 389662**

GENUINE good looking male, 38, seeking genuine female, 25-45 for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392233**

GAY SINGLES

IF YOU'RE LOOKING to meet or chat to other men, look no further. TXT: **GAY247** to **65125**

www.localgaydate.co.uk

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THE WAY I SEE IT

Immigration has brought in many benefits to the region

PEOPLE from all over the world have made a huge contribution to business, public services and community life in Dudley, and immigration has brought great benefits to Britain.

However, it's important that both the benefits of immigration and the demands it puts on public services such as schools, hospitals and housing are shared equally.

People in Dudley raise their concerns about immigration with me on the doorstep all the time and I have never thought it was racist to talk about these worries.

I've raised these issues myself. I was the first MP to call for restrictions on immigration from Eastern Europe to be maintained and at the last election I brought the Immigration Minister to Dudley so that he could listen to local people too.

We should be absolutely clear that people who live in the UK should be prepared to work hard and pay their way. They should uphold the values on which British society is based and obey the law.

They must learn to speak English too, because there's no other way to play a full part in British society.

I pushed hard for measures that the last government introduced, like the Australian-style points system for people coming here to work. The Conservatives have kept the Australian-style, points-based immigration system that Labour introduced precisely because it works.

Dudley North Labour MP Ian Austin takes the stand in our weekly Chronicle column which gives our local representatives the chance to air their views

Labour also insisted new immigrants must be able to speak English, that their access to benefits must be restricted, and that jobs advertised overseas must also be advertised here.

But the truth is that Labour was late to understand and face up to the full impact of mass immigration on our communities, workplaces and public services.

Combination

In the end, the combination of immigration and inadequate labour standards meant the lowest wages were squeezed in some sectors, including by illegal exploitation. In other sectors, firms were forced into a short-term, low skill approach by the ready supply of low wage migrant labour.

We now need real action to tackle these problems.

Exploitation of migrant workers undermines wages in general, so I want to see better enforcement of the minimum wage to prevent this. I want to see the maximum fine for those paying below the going rate doubled to £10,000, and I want to tackle the exclusion of British workers from some recruitment agencies by strengthening the laws that are designed to prevent this.

The Government is completely failing to cut the most harmful forms of immigration, and has no policies in place to deal with its worst effects.

Far from reducing immigration to the tens of thousands as they promised, net migration actually increased from 235,000 to 250,000 in the Government's first 12 months in office.

This is despite the Government's target being far too simplistic. Bizarrely, it marks it a sign of success if more Brits move abroad permanently, or if less fee-paying students come to study at our world-renowned universities.

Even when immigration has fallen, it has been because the Government has deterred students from paying to come to the UK to study, an area most people think helps our economy.

At the same time, the Government has completely failed to take action on illegal immigration.

Instead the number of people being deported or refused entry has fallen sharply, and there is a growing backlog of suspected illegal cases that are not being investigated.

At Calais, border staff have even stopped taking fingerprints from people caught hiding in lorries, making it impossible to identify them if they abscond.

Talk to colleges and universities and you'll find that the Government's immigration approach is also putting barriers in the way of immigrants who bring considerable benefits, such as graduate students.

Language

Everyone wants to stop bogus language colleges, but graduate students who pay to study and make a huge contribution to our universities can easily choose to go the countries which will welcome them and their money with open arms.

On top of this, they have not built on measures like the points system and English skill requirements that the last Labour government took to ensure that migrants were able to contribute to the British economy and integrate with British society.

We need a new approach to immigration – one that tackles these problems, addresses people's concerns and recognises that, although there are great benefits to immigration, they are not equally shared.

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Marillion fans in Civic weekender

FANS of the rock band Marillion will be descending upon Wolverhampton Civic Hall this weekend for the UK's second Marillion Weekender.

The group, still best know for the hit Kayleigh, sung by their former frontman Fish, will be peforming three concerts over three nights.

They begin on Friday by performing their 1998 album Radiation in its entirety. They also hope to break a world record by filming and releasing a DVD of the gig in record time. On Saturday the album Brave gets the full concert treatment and then the band present a secret set on Sunday.

Fans are coming from as far as Canada and Venezuela for the weekend.

Singer Ann brings a touch of Ireland

IRISH singer Ann Breen is heading to Dudley. Ann will be at The Station Hotel, on April 28 and the hotel ballroom, Castle Hill. She will also be at the Prince of Wales Theatre, Cannock, on October 4. Call 01922 417633, or visit www.annbreen.com.

Music seasons

AMERICAN tribute to Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, New Jersey Nights, comes to Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre from April 15 to 17.

Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons themselves will be in concert at the LG Arena on June 23.

Deadpan comedy from a star-spangled grouch

Downbeat American comedian Rich Hall

THE FROWN from cowtown comes to Wolverhampton next week when deadpan American stand-up comic Rich Hall brings his keen-eyed observations on the absurd and ironic on both sides of the Atlantic.

The downbeat comedian, who divides his time between Montana and London, has become a popular regular on British TV panel shows, including QI, Never Mind The Buzzcocks and Have I Got News For You.

West

He has also presented a series of wry documentaries for BBC TV looking at the Hollywood image of the the American West, Deep South and the native American.

The comedian, also known for his redneck alter-ego Otis Lee Crenshaw, will present An Evening with Rich Hall at the Wulfrun Hall on Thursday, April 18. Tickets cost £15. Call 0870 320 7000.

Kung fu and opera

THE Shaolin Warriors, showing their kung fu skills at Wolverhampton Grand on Sunday (4pm).

English Touring Opera sing Mozart's Cosi Fan Tutte in English at the Grand on Monday and Verdi's Simon Boccanegra in Italian on Tuesday. Favourite showtunes will be sung in Beyond The Barricade at the Grand onThursday, April 18.

Million dollar quintet – superstar Welsh mezzo soprano Katherine Jenkins will join top 'popera' group Il Divo in concert at the LG Arena, Birmingham, on Saturday night

Diva and Il Divo in concert

IN one of the most eagerly anticipated classical crossover concerts of the year, opera diva Katherine Jenkins and top 'popera' quartet Il Divo will unite at the LG Arena on Saturday.

The Welsh mezzo soprano and the phenomenal four have more than 30 million album sales between them, and will be performing in concert together for the first time on this tour.

Both Il Divo and Katherine Jenkins will perform classical interpretations of popular songs with an orchestra, and will also come together for duets.

Ticket prices range from £35 to £85, plus booking and transaction fees. Call the ticket hotline on 0844 338 800.

Duo could go far in the folk world

Gren Bartley & Julia Disney
Newhampton Folk Club

JULIA Disney was back on home turf with Gren Bartley in the upper room of the Newhampton pub, Wolverhampton which hosts a regular folk club.

They opened with Wayward Stars, a soft, melodic ballad which straight away showed Gren's talent for words as well as guitar playing with Julia providing backing on keyboard.

She showed more of her versatility providing the vocal harmonies for Gren on the more upbeat Kings and Queens.

Classically trained Julia then moved on to her first instrument, the fiddle, for a couple of numbers one of which was, My Time Is Nearly Over. Gren wrote this inspired by a chain gang and during which he used his guitar to great effect with Julia providing the accents.

Gren then pulled out Between the Lines about suicide, not the easiest of subjects to broach, and yet it had a surprisingly upbeat sound and again the two worked wonderfully together with Gren's smooth voice and Julia providing an underpinning of a slightly classical violin sound. Both these musicians are excellent in their own right but together they make up a duo which could go far in the folk world and are easily on a par with Roberts and Lakeman.

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What's On!

SATURDAY'S TV 13.04.13

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE

Hazel Irvine

Golf: The Masters – Live BBC2, 7.30pm

The Masters continues this evening with the third round at the Augusta National in Georgia, where the leaderboard should start to take shape on what is often referred to as 'moving day'. The players no longer have any fear of missing the cut and are able to concentrate on challenging the leaders in the first Major of the year, which was won in 2012 by Bubba Watson. The American claimed the biggest victory of his career following a play-off with South African Louis Oosthuizen, but the pre-tournament favourite this year was Tiger Woods.

BBC1

6.00 Live Formula 1: The Chinese Grand Prix – Qualifying. **8.30** Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Nigel Slater's Simple Cooking. (R) **12.00** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **12.15** Football Focus. **1.00** Formula 1: The Chinese Grand Prix – Qualifying Replay. **2.15** Golf: The Masters – Highlights. **3.30** Final Score. **5.15** Wallace & Gromit: A Matter of Loaf and Death. (R) **5.45** BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

6.00 Doctor Who. The time travellers find themselves on a damaged Russian nuclear submarine in 1983 as it spirals out of control into the ocean depths – but the Doctor is not the only alien present.

6.45 The Voice UK. The third round of the chair-spinning singing contest, with coaches Tom Jones, Jessie J, Will.i.am and Danny O'Donoghue aiming to bolster their teams.

8.20 The National Lottery: Who Dares Wins. Nick Knowles hosts the game show in which two pairs of strangers team up, each battling to outdo the other by listing as much as they know about a given subject.

9.10 Casualty. Zoe goes out of her way to help and protect a young girl she believes is at risk, while Fletch deals with a man whose lifestyle is damaging his health.

10.00 BBC News; Weather.

10.20 Match of the Day; National Lottery Update.

11.35 The Football League Show.

12.55 Film: Highlander: The Source. (2007) **2.15** Weatherview. **2.20** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **7.05 Film:** The First of the Few. (1942) Wartime biopic, directed by and starring Leslie Howard. **9.00** Gardeners' World. (R) **9.30** The Beechgrove Garden. (R) **10.00** A History of Britain by Simon Schama. (R) **11.00** Climbing Great Buildings. (R) **11.30** Map Man. (R) **12.00** Indian Food Made Easy. (R) **12.30** The Sky at Night. (R) **12.50** Coast. **1.00** University Challenge. (R) **1.30** Just a Minute. (R) **2.00 Film:** I Know Where I'm Going! (1945) Romantic drama, starring Wendy Hiller and Roger Livesey. **3.30** Flog It! **4.30** The Great British Sewing Bee. (R) **5.30** The Story of Are You Being Served? (R)

6.30 Are You Being Served? The staff rally round to keep Captain Peacock's shameful secret from his wife – but his own solution to the problem takes Mr Humphries' breath away. (R)

7.00 Dad's Army. Private Pike receives his call-up papers and unexpectedly passes his medical, much to the horror of his mollycoddling mother. (R)

7.30 Golf: The Masters – Live. Hazel Irvine presents coverage of the third day of the year's first Major, held at the Augusta National in Georgia, where Bubba Watson was victorious in 2012. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

12.00 Film: In Dreams. (1999) Thriller, starring Annette Bening. **1.35** This Is BBC Two. **5.50 Film:** The Story of GI Joe. (1945) A war reporter recounts his experiences of travelling with an American military unit through the Italian campaign. Second World War drama, with Burgess Meredith.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Jungle Junction. **6.15** Jungle Junction. **6.25** The Hive. (R) **6.35** The Hive. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **6.55** Dino Dan. (R) **7.05** Canimals. (R) **7.15** Canimals. (R) **7.25** Bookaboo. (R) **7.35** Kick Buttowski – Suburban Daredevil. **7.50** Kick Buttowski – Suburban Daredevil. **8.05** Ultimate Spider-Man. **8.25** Almost Naked Animals. (R) **8.40** Almost Naked Animals. (R) **8.55** Figaro Pho. (R) **9.00** Jessie. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **10.25** My Tasty Travels with Lynda Bellingham. (R) **11.25** Dinner Date. (R) **12.25** ITV News; Weather. **12.30 Film:** Columbo: Identity Crisis. (1975) **2.30** The Chase. (R) **3.30** Midsomer Murders. (R) **5.30** Regional Programme; Weather. **5.45** ITV News; Weather.

6.00 New You've Been Framed! and Famous 4. Harry Hill narrates a fresh selection of comical mishaps filmed by viewers on their webcams, mobile phones and camcorders, featuring a range of celebrity lookalikes.

7.00 Britain's Got Talent. New series. Ant and Dec present the first auditions as performers of all ages try to impress Simon Cowell, David Walliams, Alesha Dixon and Amanda Holden.

8.35 The Cube. Two more contestants take on the challenge. Last in the series.

9.35 The Jonathan Ross Show. With Martin and Gary Kemp and music by Suede.

10.35 ITV News; Weather.

10.50 FA Cup Football Highlights.

11.35 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Paul Gascoigne. (R)

12.30 Jackpot247. **3.00** Ladette to Lady: Australia. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Treacle People. (R) **6.10** The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** The Hoobs. (R) **7.00** VW Racing Cup. **7.30** The Grid. **7.55** The Morning Line. **8.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.55** Frasier. (R) **10.25** Frasier. (R) **10.55** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.50** The Simpsons. (R) **12.25** Secret Millionaire Ireland. **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. **4.05** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.35** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.05** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.35** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.05 Channel 4 News.

6.30 Sarah Beeny's Selling Houses. Homeowners in Muswell Hill, north London, look around one another's flats for improvement ideas and then spruce up their own on a £1,000 budget, hoping to attract buyers.

7.30 Grand Designs. Kevin McCloud meets a couple transforming 5,000sq ft of derelict basement in west London – but without proper architects' drawings, confusion kicks in almost from the start. (R)

8.30 Walking Through History. The Tudor heritage of the Weald in Kent and the Downs of East Sussex.

9.30 Film: Get Him to the Greek. (2010) Premiere. A record company employee is given the dubious task of escorting a sex-crazed British rock star to his comeback concert. Comedy, starring Russell Brand and Jonah Hill.

11.35 Derren Brown Investigates: The Man Who Contacts the Dead. (R)

12.40 Film: The Black Dahlia. (2006) **2.45** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.55** Countdown. (R) **5.40** Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.15** Power Rangers: Super Samurai. (R) **10.50** Batman: The Brave and the Bold. **11.15** Monkey Life. (R) **11.45** Rolf's Animal Clinic. (R) **12.45** Emergency Bikers. (R) **1.45** Robson's Extreme Fishing Challenge. (R) **2.45 Film:** Police Academy 4: Citizens on Patrol. (1987) **4.25 Film:** Rocky III. (1982)

6.20 Film: The Magnificent Seven Ride! (1972) The one-time leader of the gunslingers assembles a new band of mercenaries to avenge the deaths of his wife and friend. Western sequel, starring Lee Van Cleef.

8.05 5 News Weekend.

8.10 NCIS. Gibbs and his team investigate the bizarre deaths of a Marine and two of his friends, while Ziva tries to rejoin the NCIS. Starring Mark Harmon. (R)

9.10 NCIS. A blogger who accused the NCIS of a cover-up is found dead, and Gibbs and his team are forced to reopen a closed case to find the killer. Starring Mark Harmon and Michael Weatherly. (R)

10.10 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. Stabler and Benson investigate the death of a 17-year-old girl and discover a suspect in the case may have been deliberately passing on the HIV virus to his many sexual partners.

11.05 Law & Order: Criminal Intent.

12.00 SuperCasino. **4.05** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.50** County Secrets. (R) **5.05** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.15** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.25** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.50** Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Great Movie Mistakes 2: The Sequel **7.15** Merlin **8.00** Top Gear **9.00 Film:** Enemy of the State (1998) **11.05** Family Guy **11.50** American Dad!

BBC Four

7.00 South Pacific **8.00** David Attenborough's First Life **9.00** Arne Dahl: The Blinded Man – Part Two **10.30** Young Guns Go for It **11.40** Synth Britannia at the BBC

ITV2

3.30 You've Been Framed! **6.00 Film:** E.T: The Extra-Terrestrial (1982) **8.35** Britain's Got More Talent **9.35** You've Been Framed and Famous! **10.35** Celebrity Juice **11.20** Plebs **11.50** Britain's Got Talent

ITV3

2.25 Film: To Kill a Mockingbird (1963) **5.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **7.00** Lewis **9.00** The Suspicions of Mr Whicher **11.00** A Is for Acid

ITV4

11.00 Live Indian Premier League Cricket. **8.00** River Monsters. Jeremy Wade tries to find a mysterious predatory creature in the Zambezi river. **9.05 Film:** Sudden Death (1995) **11.20 Film:** The Thing (1982)

E4

5.30 The Mindy Project **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.00** Youngers **7.30** How I Met Your Mother **8.30** 2 Broke Girls **9.00 Film:** Black Knight (2001) **10.55** The Big Bang Theory **11.55** The Cleveland Show

Film4

2.20 Nausicaa of the Valley of the Wind (1984) **4.50** Silent Running (1971) **6.35** Oblivion Interview Special **6.40** Planet of the Apes (1968) **8.50** Oblivion Interview Special **9.00** Alien (1979) **11.25** Vanilla Sky (2001)

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What's On!

SUNDAY'S TV 14.04.13

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE

Susie Wolff

Driven: The Fastest Woman in the World
BBC2, 5.30pm

We've heard a lot, lately, about gender equality in the workplace. And rightly so – women are just as capable as men, and should certainly have the same opportunities. So why is it that no woman has competed in Formula 1 since 1976? It seems remarkable that, in this area at least, no progress seems to have been made whatsoever. But now, there's a new petrol-headed heroine: Oban-based racing driver Susie Wolff, who is aiming to become the first woman in almost 40 years to start a grand prix.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.00** Live Formula 1: The Chinese Grand Prix. **10.15** The Big Questions. **11.15** Sunday Politics; Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.35** Points of View. **12.50** Britain's Maharajah. **1.20** Bargain Hunt. **2.20** Formula 1: The Chinese Grand Prix Replay. **4.20** Escape to the Country. (R) **5.20** Songs of Praise.

6.05 Deadly 60 on a Mission. Hyenas, baboons, buffalo and eagles in Africa.

6.35 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

7.00 Countryfile. A visit to the eastern county of Suffolk, where Matt Baker finds out about the area's boating heritage, and JLS singer JB Gill seeks advice on farming from Adam Henson. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow. A return visit to Cheltenham Town Hall, where objects include a silver fruit bowl damaged in a domestic row and relics of Captain Scott's last expedition to the South Pole. Red button viewers can play along by guessing the valuations.

9.00 The Village. As call-up papers are delivered throughout the village, Eyre faces a tribunal for being a conscientious objector, and Grace worries when there is no news of Joe from the front line.

10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

10.25 Match of the Day 2.

11.25 Regional Programme.

11.55 Film: New Jack City. (1991) Action thriller, starring Wesley Snipes.

1.30 Weatherview. **1.35** BBC News.

BBC2

7.40 Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** Paul Hollywood's Bread. (R) **12.00** EastEnders. (R) **1.50** Coast. **2.00** Great British Food Revival. (R) **2.30** The Great Rift: Africa's Wild Heart. (R) **3.30** Secrets of Our Living Planet. (R) **4.30** Coast. (R) **5.30** Driven: The Fastest Woman in the World.

6.30 Golf: The Masters – Live. Hazel Irvine presents coverage of the fourth and final day at the Augusta National in Georgia, where the winner of the first Major of the year will be confirmed. Bubba Watson won the biggest title of his career to date here in 2012, holding his nerve to defeat Louis Oosthuizen in a play-off. Lee Westwood led the British charge, finishing in a share of third place alongside Peter Hanson, Matt Kuchar and Phil Mickelson. Hanson was in the lead heading into the last day, but the Swede fired a 73 that allowed Watson and Oosthuizen to move past him into the top two positions. Commentary by Peter Alliss, Ken Brown, Andrew Cotter and Wayne Grady and reports from Rishi Persad. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

12.00 Film: The Haunting. (1999) Three insomniacs are lured to a reputedly haunted house, where they are made to confront their deepest fears. Horror remake, with Liam Neeson, Lili Taylor and Catherine Zeta-Jones. **1.45** Sign Zone: A Very British Wedding. (R) **2.45** Holby City. Malick is presented with a great career opportunity – but it will mean leaving Holby and his son behind. (R) **3.45** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Jungle Junction. **6.15** Jungle Junction. **6.25** The Hive. (R) **6.35** The Hive. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **6.55** Dino Dan. (R) **7.05** Canimals. (R) **7.15** Canimals. (R) **7.20** Bookaboo. (R) **7.30** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **8.00** Kick Buttowski – Suburban Daredevil. **8.10** Kick Buttowski – Suburban Daredevil. **8.25** Almost Naked Animals. (R) **8.40** Almost Naked Animals. (R) **8.55** Figaro Pho. (R) **9.00** The Aquabats Super Show. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **10.25** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **11.25** ITV News; Weather. **11.30** Dinner Date. (R) **12.30** You've Been Framed! (R) **1.00** Britain's Got Talent. (R) **2.35** Food Glorious Food. (R) **3.30** Live FA Cup Football.

6.15 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.30 ITV News; Weather.

6.45 Catchphrase.

7.30 Off Their Rockers.

8.00 Endeavour. New series. Inspector Morse prequel, starring Shaun Evans as a younger version of the detective. Endeavour investigates the death of a respectable GP found in a public lavatory.

10.00 Perspectives: Paul O'Grady: Gypsy Rose Lee – the Queen of Burlesque. The presenter explores the life of burlesque performer Gypsy Rose Lee.

11.00 ITV News; Weather.

11.15 FA Cup Football Highlights. Chelsea v Manchester City.

12.00 Premiership Rugby Union. **12.55** The Store. **2.55** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **3.45** Monk. (R) **4.30** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.05 River Cottage Bites. (R) **6.10** The Treacle People. (R) **6.20** The Hoobs. (R) **6.45** The Hoobs. (R) **7.10** Will & Grace. (R) **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.05** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.35** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.05** The Simpsons. (R) **1.40 Film:** The Addams Family. (1991) **3.40** Deal or No Deal. **4.40** Channel 4 News. **5.10 Film:** Diary of a Wimpy Kid. (2010)

7.00 Five Minutes to a Fortune. Celebrity pairs Jo Brand and Meera Syal, and Rachel Riley and Russell Kane try to complete five-minute challenges in a bid to raise money for charity.

8.00 The Secret Millions. Katie Piper works with a charity helping to rehabilitate ex-convicts by employing them to manufacture and market high-end furniture after their release from prison.

9.00 My Big Fat Gypsy Fortune. Documentary revealing the secrets of the Traveller economy, showing how those in the community earn their money and fund the extravagant ceremonies seen in Big Fat Gypsy Weddings.

10.00 Film: Juno. (2007) A teenager who gets pregnant after a one-night stand with her best friend goes in search of the perfect parents to adopt her baby. Comedy, starring Ellen Page.

11.50 Film: Cocktail. (1988) Drama, starring Tom Cruise.

1.40 Southland. (R) **2.20** St Elsewhere. (R) **3.05** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.00** Deal or No Deal. (R) **4.55** Countdown. (R) **5.40** Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) **6.25** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **6.30** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.45** Chloe's Closet. **6.55** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.00** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.15** Animal Antics. (R) **7.20** Noddy in Toyland. (R) **7.35** Mio Mao. (R) **7.40** City of Friends. (R) **7.50** Castle Farm. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.10** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.25** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.40** Milkshake! Show Songs. (R) **8.45** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **9.25** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.40** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.55** The Mr Men Show. (R) **10.10** Power Rangers: Super Samurai. (R) **10.45** Batman: The Brave and the Bold. **11.15** Disney Shorts: How to Play Football. (R) **11.20** Monkey Life. (R) **11.50** Cowboy Builders. (R) **12.50 Film:** Practical Magic. (1998) **2.55 Film:** The Secret Garden. (1993) **5.00 Film:** Stepmom. (1998)

7.15 5 News Weekend.

7.20 Film: Big Daddy. (1999) Comedy, starring Adam Sandler.

9.00 Once Upon a Time. Regina regains her magical powers.

10.00 Person of Interest. A National Security Agency analyst learns of the Machine's existence.

11.00 Film: Ultraviolet. (2006) Futuristic thriller, starring Milla Jovovich.

12.45 Campus PD. **1.15** SuperCasino. **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.50** County Secrets. (R) **5.05** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.15** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.25** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.35** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.50** Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Formula 1: The Chinese Grand Prix Highlights **8.00** The Voice UK **9.30** Barely Legal Drivers **10.30** Family Guy **11.15** American Dad!

BBC Four
7.00 The First Master Chef: Michel Roux on Escoffier **8.00** The Century That Wrote Itself **9.00** When Frost Met Bakewell: Joan Bakewell at 80 **10.00** Bakewell at the BBC **11.00** Motor Racing at the BBC: That Petrol Emotion **11.30** Imagine: Tom Jones – What Good Am I?

ITV2
3.40 Britain's Got Talent **5.15** Britain's Got More Talent **6.15 Film:** Kangaroo Jack (2003) **8.00** You've Been Framed! Family Special **9.00 Film:** The Shawshank Redemption (1994) **11.50** Celebrity Juice

ITV3
3.45 Lewis **5.50** Inspector Morse **8.00 Film:** Housesitter (1991) Romantic comedy, starring Steve Martin. **10.05** Blue Murder **11.40 Film:** Doc Hollywood (1991)

ITV4
11.00 Live Indian Premier League Cricket. Kolkata Knight Riders v Sunrisers Hyderabad and Rajasthan Royals v Kings XI Punjab. **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union **9.00 Film:** The Krays (1990) **11.25 Film:** Land of the Dead (2005)

E4
3.35 How I Met Your Mother **4.30** Revenge **5.30** New Girl **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.30** The Mindy Project **8.00 Film:** Big Momma's House 2 (2006) **10.00** Rude Tube **11.00** The Body Shocking Show **11.30** 2 Broke Girls

Film4
2.50 Charlotte's Web (2006) **4.40** Three Men and a Baby (1987) **6.40** Percy Jackson & the Lightning Thief (2010) **9.00** Crash (2004) **11.10** 12 Rounds (2008)

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Tony Hardiman goes on to say "We don't know how long the scheme will be available for so it's vitally important that those households that think they may be eligible should call us straight away to avoid disappointment – **it's free** and could make all the difference between a cold home – or a warm one."

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  - a disability element or
  - a pensioner element
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  - a child under 16, or under 20 but in full-time education or
  - child tax credit with a disability element or
  - a disability element or
  - a pensioner element
- Income support (lone parent, on mat/ paternity leave or carer) with either:
  - a child under 16, or under 20 but in full-time education or
  - child tax credit with a disability element or
  - a disability element or
  - a pensioner element
- State pension credit
- Working tax credit with an income of £15,860 or less with either:
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What's On!

Film Choices

Monday
Outlaw, Channel 5, 11pm
An Iraq war veteran returns to an increasingly lawless England and discovers thugs have taken over his neighbourhood and his wife is having an affair. Pushed to the edge, he assembles and trains disillusioned men to take matters into their own hands and deal with the criminals who have wronged them. Crime drama, starring Sean Bean, Danny Dyer and Bob Hoskins. (2007)

Tuesday
Like Minds, BBC1, 11.35pm
A prep school student is murdered, and suspicion immediately falls on a classmate who was found standing over the body. A psychologist is brought in to interview the suspect, discovering a strange tale of ancient secret societies and the disturbing bond that developed between the two boys. Crime thriller, starring Toni Collette and Richard Roxburgh. (2006)

Wednesday
Bend It Like Beckham, BBC1, 11.05pm
An English schoolgirl tries to hide her passion for football from her strict Indian parents, knowing they disapprove of her tomboyish love of the game. However, when a semi-professional player sees her in action, she is offered a place on a team, forcing her to come up with a complex plan to keep her sporting career under wraps. Comedy, with Parminder Nagra, Keira Knightley, Jonathan Rhys Meyers and Juliet Stevenson. (2002)

Bend It Like Beckham, Wednesday, BBC1, 11.05pm

Thursday
Exit Wounds, Channel 5, 10pm
A maverick cop, transferred to a tough new precinct, determines to make a difference to the lawless streets, but he comes to realise his fellow officers are even more corrupt than the local hoods – and are on the verge of completing a major drug deal. Thriller, starring Steven Seagal and Isaiah Washington. (2001)

Friday
Forgetting Sarah Marshall, ITV, 10.35pm
A musician is devastated when his actress girlfriend leaves him, and he tries to cure his broken heart with a holiday in Hawaii. Unfortunately, his efforts to forget the past are scuppered when his ex turns out to be staying at the same resort, with her new boyfriend – a successful rock star – in tow. Romantic comedy, starring Jason Segel, Kristen Bell and Russell Brand. (2008)

Butterfly on a Wheel, BBC1, 11.55pm
A couple expect a ransom demand when their daughter is kidnapped – but the mysterious criminal responsible is not interested in money. Instead, the kidnapper insists they obey his every instruction over the next 24 hours. Thriller, starring Pierce Brosnan. (2007)

Pick of the Week

The search for a star to light up our lives

Back in the mid-1970s, when Simon Cowell was a teenager with big dreams of fame and fortune, host Derek Hobson welcomed countless acts to the ATV studios for New Faces.

Although the show was a launch pad for the likes of Lenny Henry and Victoria Wood, in retrospect the format was more like Phoenix Nights' auditions than prime-time Saturday night.

A good idea, but a limited budget, drab set and male-dominated judging panel meant it was in need of glamour and pizzazz. By June 2007, things had changed as Cowell launched his version of the good old-fashioned talent show.

Britain's Got Talent, ITV, Saturday, 7pm not only struck a chord with the masses, it became an annual institution.

That first run aired on consecutive nights on ITV1, with the first five shows featuring the audition stages, held in London, Cardiff, Birmingham and Manchester.

The final four episodes were the live semi-finals and final, with opera singer Paul Potts emerging as the winner of the public vote.

It was watched by more than 11million viewers, so little wonder ITV bosses were left hungry for more. In the years that followed, we've seen dancer George Sampson, dance troupe Diversity, acrobatic outfit Spelbound, singer Jai McDowall, and dancing dog act Ashleigh and Pudsey all clinch victory, with last year's live final on May 12 attracting 12.5million viewers. Ashleigh and Pudsey also went home half-a-million pounds richer thanks to the highest payout in BGT's history.

Which brings us to this year's contest as recent chart-busters Ant and Dec return for another selection of weird and wonderful acts hoping to launch their careers, get their hands (or paws) on that cash, and perform at the Royal Variety Performance in December.

The latest auditions kicked off on January 7 this year, and now is your first chance to see the good, the bad and the downright dreadful. Of course, as Susan Boyle proved, you don't even need to win the show to become a global sensation.

Runners up Stavros Flatley, Twist & Pulse and Paul Burling proved good value for money on home turf, but the viral appeal of Su-Bo's I Dreamed A Dream audition not only won a worldwide fanbase, but also helped greenlight an Oscar-winning movie version of Les Misérables. Who knows what this year's contestants are capable of achieving?

One woman who's thrilled to be back on the judging panel is Amanda Holden. "I can't wait. It'll be really interesting to see the dynamic and see whether David Walliams will be able to get away with murder like he did last year," she laughs. Along with Messrs McPartlin and Donnelly, Holden is the thread that ties all the series together, honking her way through act after act with THAT laugh, and some often brilliant soundbites, such as her retort to a grumpy Cowell in one episode: "Get back in your cave, Voldemort."

It's anyone's guess what wonders awaits judges Cowell, Holden, Walliams and Alesha Dixon, but given the show's track record, you can bet it'll be bizarre, occasionally moving and a lot of fun.

The judges return in Britain's Got Talent, Saturday, ITV, 7pm

Best of the Rest

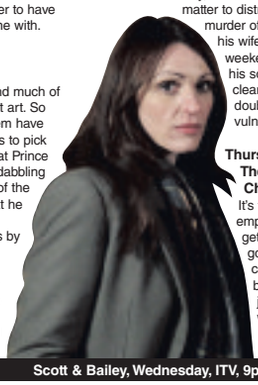
Monday
Broadchurch
ITV, 9pm
In recent years, mainstream TV drama has been criticised for dumbing down, for being bland and predictable with little in the way of imagination. But every now and then, a programme comes along that stands out from the crowd thanks to its gripping storyline that keeps viewers guessing right to its final moments – and, we're pleased to say, Broadchurch is one such series. We're about to see the penultimate edition, and DI Alec Hardy could certainly use a break as the stresses and strains of finding the culprit continue to take their toll on his fragile health. A vital clue finally turns up that could unlock the mysteries surrounding Danny's death – but who will it implicate?

The Hoarder Next Door
Channel 4, 9pm
It's that time of year again – the dreaded spring clean. If you've been up to your marigold cuffs in suds and dusters already, only to despair at the amount you've still got left to do, take the time to watch this new documentary series and remember – it could be a whole lot worse! Here, psychotherapist Stelios Kiosses and his team return to help extreme collectors restore order to their homes. First up is Sarah from Dorset, a single mum whose two-bedroom flat is becoming lost beneath a pile of clutter – a fact which doesn't sit well with her teenage son, Ally. Meanwhile, London bachelor Roddy's five-storey home is brimming with ancient newspapers dating back 30 years. Talk about old news.

Tuesday
The Syndicate
BBC1, 9pm
This week it's the turn of Alan to learn the hard way that money isn't everything. "Alan has made bad decisions in his life and the fact that he suddenly has money doesn't stop him from making those decisions," says Mark Addy, who plays him. Alcoholic Alan has been sober since his wife and kids left him, but he falls off the wagon in spectacular fashion after his numbers come up. He also splashes out on a makeover and various luxury items, but realises he'd prefer to have somebody to share his good fortune with.

Royal Paintbox
ITV, 10.35pm
Members of the Royal Family spend much of their home life surrounded by great art. So there's no wonder that a few of them have been inspired by their surroundings to pick up a paintbrush. It's well-known that Prince Charles loves nothing better than dabbling in watercolours while relaxing out of the limelight; it's rather fitting, then, that he will be presenting this one-off documentary which features works by several of his forebears, including Queen Victoria, King George III, Mary Queen of Scots and his own father, the Duke of Edinburgh. The Prince's cousin, Sarah Armstrong Jones, herself a working artist, will also discuss the subject during her first-ever TV interview.

Wednesday
Scott & Bailey
ITV, 9pm
Domestic matters loom large this week. Gill's son Sammy announces his engagement, and although she likes his fiancée, Orla, she can't help worry that at 19, he's rushing into such a commitment. Meanwhile, Sean suspects that Rachel has been unfaithful after taking a call from a mystery man, and Janet persuades Ade to live with his new girlfriend before asking her mother to move in with her. Thankfully, the women have a professional matter to distract them, namely the murder of family man Eddie while his wife was away for the weekend. The prime suspect is his son Daniel, until it becomes clear that Eddie was living a double life that made him vulnerable to exploitation.


Scott & Bailey, Wednesday, ITV, 9pm

Thursday
The Intern
Channel 4, 9pm
It's the eternal Catch-22 of the employment market – you can't get a job because you haven't got the experience, and you can't get the experience because you haven't got a job. Or at least, that's the way it used to be until Hilary Devey decided to shake things up a bit. This week, she's tackling journalism, as 20-year-old Lizzie, 21-year-old John and 27-year-old Dan are given trainee reporter positions on The Sunday Sport. The trio have just one week to prove to the editor that they have the drive and tenacity needed to get their names into print and secure a job in one of Britain's most competitive industries.

Friday
The Ice Cream Girls
ITV, 9pm
ITV is more than capable of holding its own where top-notch dramas are concerned. In recent weeks, we've been treated to the superb Lightfields, and of course there's the one that everyone's talking about – Broadchurch. And it's by no means going to dent that reputation with this latest effort. Based on Dorothy Koomson's novel, it follows two women, Serena Gorringe and Poppy Carlisle, who as vulnerable teenagers were accused of murdering their school teacher, Mr Halnsley. Seventeen years after that fateful night, Poppy, recently released from prison for the murder, maintains her innocence and is determined to track down her former friend to find out what really happened. Lorraine Burroughs and Jodhi May star.

Alan Carr: Chatty Man
Channel 4, 10pm
This week, fun certainly won't be in short supply – for a start, that's the name of his musical guests. The US band fun. will be performing their new single All Alone. Alan is also joined by comedian Bill Bailey, who will be talking about his latest stand-up tour, the intriguingly named Qualmpeddler.

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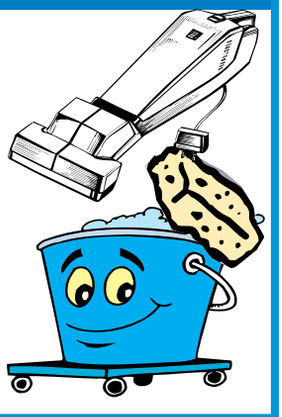

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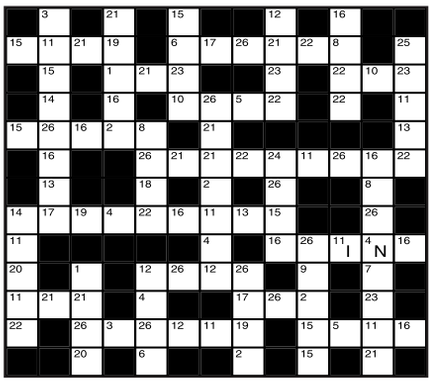
Brain Gym

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1 M	2 P	3 J	4 T	5 E	6 B	7 X	8 K	9 G	10 C	11 R	12 V	13 H
14 S	15 I	16 L	17 U	18 W	19 D	20 Y	21 N	22 A	23 Z	24 F	25 Q	26 O

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

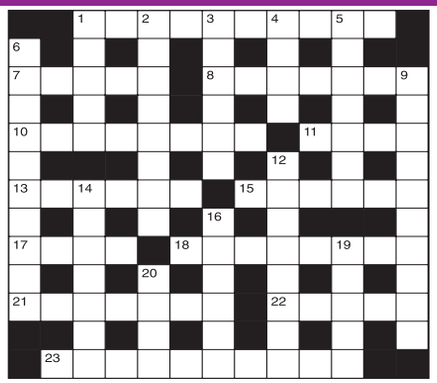
Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Alec shot it, perhaps. Not a friendly deed! (7,3)
7. It counts as a hazard for ramblers (5)
8. Wild at having it turned into foreign currency (7)
10. A count will confirm it (5-3)
11. Long period return to a district (4)
13. Describes a sailor given a mission (6)
15. A practical lesson to be drawn, but not concerned with ethics (6)
17. Drop and damage (4)
18. Give one time for transgression (8)
21. A target, maybe, for yachtsmen (7)
22. Vassal for example caught in falsehood (5)
23. A wife is apparently preferable to nothing at all (6,4)

Down

1. If you have a complaint you may resort to this (5)
2. Imposing corporal punishment (8)
3. Pouring in, in a state of change (6)
4. Made up cheese (4)
5. He may bring food from the terrace (7)
6. Teacher after a job as a slave - driver (10)
9. A daring aspirant to sporting fame (10)
12. It's always used up when needed (8)
14. It helps an artiste to perform brilliantly (7)
16. I'm not one to weaken (6)
19. It's bound to contain stalks (5)
20. It will be in bad taste to let it stand (4)



Quick Clues:

Across

1. Likeness (10)
7. Plain (5)
8. Prop (7)
10. Foreman (8)
11. Signify (4)
13. Beverage of the gods (6)
15. Mourn (6)
17. Dry (4)
18. Sledge (8)
21. Walked warily (7)
22. Wrong (5)
23. Component (10)

Down

1. Sift (5)
2. Crack shot (8)
3. Reduce (6)
4. Kind (4)
5. Bishopric (7)
6. Book-keeper (10)
9. Compassion (10)
12. Claim unduly (8)
14. Shoemaker's saint (7)
16. Squalid (6)
19. Sinfulness (5)
20. Rain heavily (4)

Sudoku

			7		8			
	2			5			1	8
	5		9		2	6		7
7	4					2		
1				8				3
		8			7		6	4
		1	3		6		9	
2	9		8				4	
		6			5			

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

3	9	5	1	2	8	6	7	4
4	6	1	5	9	7	8	2	3
2	8	7	4	6	3	5	1	9
6	5	3	2	1	9	7	4	8
1	2	8	7	5	4	3	9	6
7	4	9	3	8	6	2	5	1
5	7	4	8	3	1	9	6	2
9	3	2	6	4	5	1	8	7
8	1	6	9	7	2	4	3	5

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 6 Turn out; 7 Droll; 9 Dip; 10 Henrietta; 12 First person; 15 Take your bow; 17 Sprinkler; 19 End; 21 Itchy; 22 Replete. Down: 1 Cupid; 2 One; 3 Mule; 4 Green room; 5 Glutton; 8 Proper; 11 Limelight; 13 Stocks; 14 Carpets; 16 Unity; 18 Even; 20 Alf. QUICK - Across: 6 Proceed; 7 Corps; 9 Use; 10 Annulment; 12 Speculation; 15 Preliminary; 17 Dangerous; 19 New; 21 Loose; 22 Agitate. Down: 1 Dress; 2 Act; 3 Mean; 4 Dormitory; 5 Opinion; 8 Sullen; 11 Apologise; 13 Camera; 14 Creator; 16 Petty; 18 Urge; 20 Sty.

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PAPYRUS prevention of young suicide

HOPELineUK 0800 068 41 41

Every year in the UK between 600 and 800 young people between the ages of 15 and 24 take their own lives - a number equivalent to the population of a small secondary school. Under the age of 35, the number rises to over 1,700. Three quarters of them are young men. In England and Wales alone around 24,000 attempted suicides are made by 10 to 19 year olds - one every 20 minutes. Although fortunately many are reached before it is too late, suicide remains the main cause of death in young males between the age of 18 and 24.

Shocking statistics, which PAPYRUS believes is a national scandal. But it is just the tip of the iceberg. Many thousands of young people contemplate suicide and many self harm.

But there is hope. Suicide need not be the inevitable result of feeling suicidal and early intervention can save lives. PAPYRUS is a national charity committed to the prevention of young suicide. It was founded in 1997 by a group of parents who had a lost a child through suicide: parents determined to do everything possible to save other families and young people from a similar fate. PAPYRUS provides practical help to anyone - parent, sibling, grandparent, friend, teacher, carer, medical professional, work colleague - concerned that a young person may be at risk of killing themselves.

Suicidal young people can feel isolated. Those around them may be 'walking on egg shells', worried - and therefore hesitant - that what they say might tip that person over the edge. PAPYRUS has helped hundreds of people to help others. Its helpline, HOPELineUK, is staffed by trained professionals who provide practical advice, information and support - how to cope, what to say and do - to anyone concerned that a young person may be at risk of harming themselves. If you are worried or indeed are a young person feeling suicidal yourself you should never hesitate to call. Total confidence and anonymity are guaranteed.

As well as raising awareness of the danger signals PAPYRUS produces a range of resources for different sectors of the community - parents and families, young people, young offenders, ethnic and minority groups, mental health professionals, universities and colleges. It initiates research into suicide prevention, is represented in policy-making decisions and campaigns to protect vulnerable young people being groomed for suicide on the internet.

PAPYRUS is a national charity, bringing hope where there is hopelessness. It has a big agenda and welcomes the support of new members. Anyone interested in helping to reduce the number of young people who take their own lives will be warmly welcomed.

"Nothing must diminish our resolve to prevent young people from taking their lives and to doing all we can to encourage others to make known the scale of this social issue: too many young people take their own lives each year. One is too many: 1,400 is a social scandal," suggests Ged. "PAPYRUS continues to work tirelessly to prevent young suicide. Our helpline HOPELineUK 0800 068 41 41 provides a unique service in the UK to parents, family members and friends to speak confidentially to our trained professionals and receive practical advice and support. Or if you prefer email pat@papyrus-uk.org or text 07786 209.697."

Ged encourages any young person who may be in distress or indeed anyone who has a concern about a young person who may be suicidal to give HOPELineUK a call."

For more information about PAPYRUS please call 01925 572 444, email admin@papyrus-uk.org or visit www.papyrus-uk.org

Donations can be made either by texting as below or JustGiving, GiveNow.org Virgin Money Giving or cheque via post or debit or credit card by calling 01925 572 444

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STAYING IN

Exploring a city in the sky

Go back to the future in the 'steampunk' fantasy game Bioshock Infinite

IT IS rather early to suggest THE game of the year has arrived but it will take something very special to top Bioshock Infinite (18).

If the original Bioshock and its world of iron and water was for long the best 'steampunk' style fantasy game available, well its lobng-awaited sequel has gone some way better with the incredible flying city of Columbia.

It is set in an alternative American 1912, where a fundamentalist cult led by a dictatorial prophet has gripped a mechanised world, where racism is rife and a floating barber shop quartet sings Beach Boys songs.

Stunning

You play as Booker DeWitt, a detective on a mission to find a mysterious girl. It is not long before the beautifully crafted graphics are blood splattered because, despite its quest and stunning imagination, this remains in essence a first person shooter.

Of course, nothing is quite what it seems in this looking glass world.

But one thing is certain, Bioshock Infinite is worth the six year wait since the original.

Leon Burakowski

Also available:

The Sims 3: University Life (7)

Get a degree, hit the dorm party circuit or explore off-campus in the latest life stage expansion pack for the popular computer title. EA maintain the series's eye for detail, compulsive gameplay and sense of humour.

Gears of War Judgement (18)

This series of muscle-flexing sci-fi shooters has become a staple of the game scene and the new prequel to the Gears trilogy is another solid addition, although the fragmented campaign is sometimes at odds with arcade style thrills. Baird and co certainly have their hands full with the heavily armed alien enemies.

History Legends of War (16), Air Conflicts Pacific Carriers (16)

Tactics rather than aggression are key to victory in History's top-down viewed strategy game based on D-Day and the latter stages of the war. Pacific Carriers is a decent Second World War flight combat sim for console flyboys

Titles either reviewed on Xbox 360 or PC but available in various formats.

Year of the comeback

MUSICALLY 2013 is becoming the year of the comeback.

First David Bowie stunned his fans with The Next Day, his first album in ten years and probably his best since Black Tie White Noise in 1993.

Whilst lead single Where Are We Now? struck a melancholic note, the album is itself aggressively a rock album, suggesting Bowie intends to rage against the dying of the light.

Vocals

Now Bowie's 1990s Britpop heirs Suede are back with their first album in ten years.

Bloodsports finds them in classic form – Brett Anderson's vocals are at his imperious best with churning guitar from Richard Oakes, epic keyboards from Neil Codling, propulsive drumming and bass by Simon Gilbert and Mat Osman.

It Starts And Ends With You and Hit Me are as good as anything that's gone before in the Suede repertoire.

With Stereophonics having just released their best album for years, Graffiti On The Train, and Simple Minds reactivated with a greatest hits package and tour, the previous generations are leading by example.

And get ready for the imminent returns of James, Texas, Lisa Stansfield, OMD, The B-52s and a Hyde Park concert by The Rolling Stones.

OUT AND ABOUT

Relics of Rome and a rock icon

NEW blockbuster exhibitions are proving a huge draw at two of London's most famous museums, offering an insight into the lives of Roman communities frozen in time and a look at the creative genius of a rock legend.

At the British Museum, Life and Death Pompeii and Herculaneum brings together more than 250 fascinating relics, including many recent discoveries, from the Roman towns smothered by volcanic ash in AD 79 when Mount Vesuvius erupted.

Family

The display recreates a typical Roman home with many items that would be familiar today, from tweezers to a baby's cradle. With their liking for food and drink, petty squabbles and politics revealed by graffiti, love of family shown in portraits, this reveals the Romans as very similar to us. That is poignant when seeing the resin and plaster casts of Romans frozen at the moment of death, including a family, parents thrown back by explosive heat as a child attempts to escape. Life and Death Pompeii and Herculaneum continues until September 29.

At The Victoria and Albert Museum, David Bowie Is will delight fans of the chameleon rock star who recently returned to the limelight with his first album in ten years.

Putting the Bowie phenomena into a cultural context, fans will relish the chance to see iconic costumes – including Ziggy Stardust outfits – and read original handwritten lyrics including scribbled out alternative lines.

The display ends in a hall of giant video screens, like a cathedral dedicated to Bowie.

It continues until August 11. Best to book ahead as ticket demand is massive.

Home of Property

Your top property guide for Dudley, Halesowen, Sedgley, Kidderminster and Stourbridge

Extensively extended six-bed period house

The property called Daycot House in Stream Road is on the market for £549,000

A HUGE period three-storey detached house with six double bedrooms and four/five en suites is for sale priced at £549,000.

The property – Daycot House in Stream Road, Kingswinford – boasts extended and enlarged accommodation over three floors as well as a massive rear garden which has been landscaped to include extensive lawns, patios including a barbecue area with wooden gazebo, stream water feature and koi carp pool.

On the ground floor the guest cloakroom has a classic white suite with WC and wash basin, a sitting room measuring 16ft by 14ft with log burner with period style fireplace and a formal dining room – 14ft by 12ft – with Louis-style fireplace and French doors. A breakfast room/snug, 12ft by 11ft, has French doors to the rear garden, with a luxury fitted kitchen measuring 21ft 6in by 11ft .

On the first floor three of the bedrooms have en suites, and there is a fourth bedroom and house bathroom with P-shaped bath with shower and screen, wash basin and WC while on the second floor bedroom five has an en-suite and bedroom six a potential en suite.

Outside the property is set well back from the road behind a wall with double gates to a full width tarmac driveway providing parking for several vehicles and leading to a garage, and alongside is a landscaped garden.

The rear garden is some 200ft long with a printed concrete patio, low-level wall, lawns with wood chipped borders, central circular paving, wooden gazebo with tiled roof covering a barbecue area with patio, koi pool and timber decked platform.

Call Taylors on 01384 401777 for more details.

Detached four-bed is in highly sought-after area

This house in High Park Crescent is on the market with Bartlams for £274,950

A FOUR bedroom, two bathroom family detached home in Sedgley is for sale based on offers around £274,950.

The property is in the highly regarded area of High Park Crescent, with bus services along the main Wolverhampton Road into Sedgley town centre, as well as both Wolverhampton and Dudley.

The accommodation provides good family living space with an open plan family room incorporating the kitchen and conservatory, with the house also benefiting from double glazing and gas central heating.

On the ground floor the entrance hall has oak flooring and the guest cloakroom a white suite with WC and wash hand basin, with a lounge having a bay window and timber fire surround with inset electric fire.

Double doors from the hall lead into the open plan family room/kitchen area, the kitchen having a range of units including base cupboards and drawers with granite style work tops, space for American style fridge/freezer, range style cooker with canopy/extractor over, wall and display cupboards, island unit with cupboards, built-in dishwasher and sink with mixer tap.

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13 THE BROADWAY £199,950
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- Detached property
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- Located in popular residential area
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34 WOODCROFT AVE £199,500
TIPTON
- Traditional detached house of character
- Well proportioned three bedroom accommodation
- Majority uPVC double glazing & gas central heating
- Two reception rooms, enlarged kitchen
- SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING E

3 LONGFELLOW ROAD £195,950
LOWER GORNAL
- Extended semi detached house
- Four bedrooms
- Potential to alter to five bedrooms
- Two separate living areas
- Kitchen/diner, laundry, shower room
- SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING D

62A ROBERT STREET £195,000
LOWER GORNAL
- Detached house
- Three double bedrooms
- Ensuite shower room, utility room
- Delightful open outlook at rear
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75 BATH STREET O/O £185,000
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- Extended detached family home
- Three bedrooms, three reception rooms
- Breakfast kitchen
- Large garden plot
- SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING D

22 TURLS HILL ROAD O/A £179,950
SEDGLEY
- Traditional semi detached house with three bedrooms
- Extended breakfast kitchen & rear living room
- Gas centrally heated & majority double glazing
- Large and extensive rear garden
- SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING D

5 BROWNSWALL ROAD £174,950
SEDGLEY
- Semi detached house
- Three bedrooms, conservatory
- Good sized accommodation
- Two reception rooms
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51C SANDSTONE CLOSE £154,950
LOWER GORNAL
- Semi detached two bedroom bungalow
- Improved & modernised
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- SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING C

73 OLD PARK ROAD £149,950
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- Extended semi detached house
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FLAT 4 REGENCY COURT £129,950
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- Spacious modern first floor flat
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- SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING C

43 LADBROOK GROVE £129,950
LOWER GORNAL
- Semi detached bungalow
- Two bedrooms
- In need of certain cosmetic works
- Gas central heating & double glazing
- SEDGLEY OFFICE

404 WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD EAST £119,950
WOLVERHAMPTON
- Semi detached house
- Three bedrooms
- Updating works required
- Garage at rear
- SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING D

15 NEW ROWLEY ROAD £117,500
DUDLEY
- Edwardian end terraced house
- Two bedrooms & attic room
- Deceptively spacious
- Majority gas central heating
- DUDLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING E

130 MOUNT ROAD £115,000
LANESFIELD
- Traditional semi detached house
- Three bedrooms
- Larger than average plot
- Large private rear garden
- SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING D

3 JESSON ROAD £114,950
WOODSETTON
- Three bedroom house
- Extended accommodation
- Kitchen with breakfast area
- Two reception rooms
- SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING D

80 CENTRAL DRIVE O/A £108,500
LOWER GORNAL
- Well maintained terraced house
- Three bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Gas central heating & double glazing
- SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING D

54 BRIDGE STREET £99,950
COSELEY
- Well maintained maisonette
- Three bedrooms
- Spacious accommodation
- Rear garden & parking
- SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING E

81 HORACE STREET O/A £99,950
COSELEY
- Modern end terraced house
- Two bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Ample off street parking
- SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING D

3 GIDEONS CLOSE £525 PCM
LOWER GORNAL
- Modern semi detached house
- Two bedrooms
- Well proportioned accommodation
- Gas central heating & double glazing
- SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING D

Sedgley Office
01902 885894

Dudley Office
01384 459999

wakeman-online.com

Sedgley SKITTS ESTATE AGENTS

01902 686868
sedgley@skitts.net

NEW INSTRUCTION

WESTCROFT ROAD
NORTHWAY

- Substantial Detached Family Residence with Three Bedrooms
- 23ft 'L' Shaped Living Room • Double Glazed Conservatory
- Downstairs WC • Central heating, Double Glazing • 26ft Garage
- Enclosed Rear Garden • EXTREMELY POPULAR LOCATION

Energy Rating TBC

£189,999

NO UPWARD CHAIN

BRICK KILN LANE
GORNAL WOOD

- Detached family residence in popular location • Three double bedrooms
- Spacious dining kitchen • Useful downstairs WC off spacious entrance hall
- Modern shower room • 22ft Integral garage • No upward chain

Energy Rating: E

Reduced to £239,940

VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

THE ALLEY
LOWER GORNAL

- A delightful detached cottage • Refurbished to a good standard
- FANTASTIC POSITION • VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
- Two bedrooms • Living room with 'Cast Iron' fuel burner
- Fitten kitchen • Downstairs Cloaks • Ample off road parking

Energy Rating: D

£229,950

FREE MARKET APPRAISALS - Call us now on 01902 686868

EVE LANE
UPPER GORNAL

- Semi-detached family home • Three bedrooms
- Spacious lounge and dining area • Central heating
- Double glazing • Garage • Pleasant rear garden
- FANTASTIC OPEN VIEWS TO THE REAR Energy Rating: TBC

£129,950

ROCK STREET
UPPER GORNAL

- Mid-Terraced Property with FOUR Bedrooms
- Deceptively Spacious Family Home • Two Reception Rooms
- Central Heating, Double Glazing • Popular Location
- Interior Viewing Recommended Energy Rating: D

£119,950

DIMMOCKS AVENUE
COSELEY

- A delightful semi-detached family home • Three bedrooms
- INTERIOR VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED • Pleasant sitting room
- Well presented dining kitchen with patio doors out • Stylish bathroom
- Central heating • Double glazing • Garage Energy Rating TBC

£137,500

HILL STREET
UPPER GORNAL

- Well presented ground floor flat • Bedroom, lounge, kitchen
- Bathroom • Central heating, double glazing • Off road parking
- Viewing recommended • Ideal first time buy Energy Rating: D

£75,950

LISTER ROAD
DUDLEY

- Two bedroom first floor flat with private access • Spacious home
- 17ft Living room, kitchen, shower room, rear garden • Central heating
- Double glazing • No upward chain • Ideal first time buy

Energy Rating: C

£74,995

SPRINGFIELD GROVE
SEDGLEY

- EXTREMELY WELL PRESENTED First floor flat • Lounge, bedroom
- Stylish kitchen • Bathroom • Central heating, Double glazing
- MUST BE VIEWED • Walking distance to Sedgley Energy Rating: C

£69,500

CAMBERLEY CRESCENT
ETTINGSHALL PARK

- A substantial three bedroom semi-detached family home
- Extremely desirable location • Spacious 23ft lounge diner
- Central heating and double glazing • 30ft Garage • Private rear garden
- Off road parking • NO UPWARD CHAIN Energy Rating TBC

Offers Around £149,950

OLD PARK ROAD
DUDLEY

- Semi-detached with three bedrooms • Two reception rooms
- Kitchen plus verandah • Heating, double glazing • Off road parking
- Conveniently positioned • Requiring some modernisation works

Energy Rating: G

£114,950

TENNYSON ROAD
THE STRAITS

- Detached bungalow situated on a prominent corner position
- Spacious accommodation • Extensive gardent to the front, side and rear
- Three bedrooms • Living room, fitted dining kitchen • Central heating
- Double glazing • Off road parking, 27ft Garage • Delightful location

Energy Rating: E

£225,000

BOSWORTH CLOSE
WOODSETTON

- Detached residence • Extremely well presented
- FOUR Bedrooms • 21ft Living room • Ground floor cloaks
- Central heating • Double glazing • Garage • Off road parking
- Popular location Energy Rating: TBC

£225,000

VANBOROUGH WALK
DUDLEY

- Well maintained semi-detached home with three good size bedrooms
- Lounge, dining room, conservatory • Central heating, double glazing
- Off road parking, integral garage • Private rear garden
- Spacious accommodation • Quietly positioned Energy Rating: C

£139,950

PADARN CLOSE
NORTHWAY

- Spacious end-townhouse • Three bedrooms • Lounge, dining kitchen
- Downstairs cloaks • Central heating, double glazing
- Low maintenance rear garden • Parking • Popular location

Energy Rating: D

£125,000

VALLEY ROAD
UPPER GORNAL

- Extended semi-detached • Spacious family home
- Three double bedrooms • Lounge plus dining room
- Dining kitchen • Spacious bathroom • Ample off road parking
- Central heating • Double glazing • MUST BE VIEWED Energy Rating: D

Reduced to £111,950

THE RIDGEWAY
SEDGLEY

- Spacious end-terraced • Two bedrooms • Two reception rooms
- Down stairs WC • Central heating, double glazing • Off road parking
- Conveniently positioned Energy Rating: D

Reduced to £109,995

OLD PARK ROAD
DUDLEY

- EXTENDED Semi-detached • Spacious home with three bedrooms
- Two reception rooms • 17ft Kitchen • Central heating, double glazing
- Pleasant rear garden • Off road parking • No upward chain

Energy Rating: E

£127,500

HIMLEY AVENUE
DUDLEY

- Semi-detached family home • Three bedrooms
- Lounge, dining room, study • Kitchen plus utility
- Off road parking • Central heating • Double glazing
- A well presented home • VIEWING RECOMMENDED Energy Rating: C

Offers Around £149,950

LAUREL ROAD
DUDLEY

- Spacious semi-detached • Three bedrooms • Lounge plus dining area
- Double glazed conservatory • Downstairs WC
- Central heating, double glazing • Rear garden
- Off road parking • Ideal first time buy Energy Rating: D

£106,500

MULBERRY GREEN
GREENS ESTATE

- Semi-detached family home with three bedrooms • 18ft Living room
- Double glazed conservatory • Dining kitchen • Central heating
- Double glazing • No upward chain • Spacious accommodation

Energy Rating: C

Reduced to £91,995

QUEENS ROAD
- Semi-detached family home • Three bedrooms
- Lounge with bay window • Dining room • Kitchen
- Spacious bathroom • Central heating and double glazing

£145,000

LONGFELLOW ROAD
- Spacious detached dormer bungalow • Four bedrooms
- Lounge plus dining area • Kitchen with conservatory off
- Shower room • Off road parking plus garage • Central

£189,950

TURNERS HILL ROAD
- Spacious semi-detached home • Three bedrooms
- 21ft Living room • Dining kitchen • Heating and double glazing

Reduced to £107,950

ZOAR STREET
- A well presented mid-terraced home • Fantastic accommodation
- Three double bedrooms • Two reception rooms • Dining

£139,950

VALLEY ROAD
- Semi-detached home • Three bedrooms • Lounge
- Dining kitchen • Downstairs cloaks • Central heating
- Double glazing • Off road parking • Popular location En-

£104,950

DONNINGTON COURT
- Spacious ground floor apartment
- Well presented home, 20ft Living room
- Central heating, double glazing •Ideal first time buy

£89,950

CROSS LANE
- Corner position • Semi-detached family home
- Three bedrooms • Lounge diner • Central heating
- Double glazing • Off road parking • Spacious accommo-

Reduced to £109,995 REDUCED

SWAN STREET
- Refurbished semi-detached • Three bedrooms
- Lounge, kitchen, utility • Down stairs WC
- Central heating, double glazing • Investment opportunity

£95,500

SUTTON COURT
- Ground floor flat on private development • Bedroom, lounge, kitchen
- Bathroom, WC • Heating, double glazing • Parking •

£54,950

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ROWLEY REGIS

WOODNORTON ROAD

•EPC RATING AWAITED•Extended Mid Terraced Residence•Three Bedrooms•Lounge•Dining Room•Extended Kitchen•Ground Floor Cloakroom•Bathroom•Drive

£130,000 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

TIVIDALE

WESTON AVENUE

•EPC RATING AWAITED•Three Bedroom Semi Detached•Lounge•Kitchen Diner•First Floor Bathroom•Ground Floor Shower Room•Utility Area•Garage•Drive

£124,950 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

OAKHAM

OAKHAM

•EPC RATING D•Three Bedroom Semi Detached•Rear Lounge•Fitted Dining Kitchen•Double Glazing Where Stated•Gas Central Heating System•Garage•Drive•Viewing Recommended

£119,000 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

DUDLEY

SYCAMORE GREEN

•EPC RATING C•Three Bedroom Extended Semi Detached Residence•Lounge•Fitted Kitchen•Extended Dining Room•First Floor Bathroom•Double Glazing Where Stated•Gas Central Heating System•Drive•Rear Garden

£105,000 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

TIVIDALE

ASTON ROAD

•EPC RATING AWAITED•Orginally Two Now Three Bedroom Semi Detached•Through Lounge/Dining Room•First Floor Bathroom•Double Glazing Where Stated•Gas Central Heating System•Rear Garden•No Chain

£104,950 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

DUDLEY

MARIGOLD CRESCENT

•EPC RATING AWAITED•Four Bedroom Semi Detached•Lounge & Dining Room•Fitted Kitchen•Bathroom•Rear Garden

£94,950 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

TIVIDALE

DOVEY ROAD

•EPC RATING F•Three Bedroom Semi Detached•Lounge•Kitchen•Bathroom Upstairs•Rear Garden•No Chain

£84,950 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

COSELEY

ANDERSLEIGH DRIVE

•EPC RATING E•Modern End Townhouse•Two Bedrooms•Lounge•Kitchen•Bathroom•Double Glazing Where Stated•Parking•Rear Garden

£99,950 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

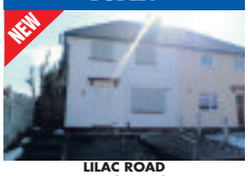
ROWLEY REGIS

WOOLPACK CLOSE

•EPC GRADING C •Two Bedroom Mid Townhouse•Vestibule•Lounge•Fitted Kitchen•Bathroom Upstairs•Double Glazing Where Stated•Gas Central Heating System•Drive•No Chain

£79,950 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

DUDLEY



LILAC ROAD

•EPC Rating D•Three Bedroom Semi Detached•Lounge•Kitchen•Ground Floor Bathroom•Rear Garden•No Chain

£74,950 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

NETHERTON

TRYSULL WAY

•An Improved Semi Detached Property•Three Bedrooms•Lounge & Dining Room•Refitted Kitchen•Conservatory•Double Glazing Where Stated•Gas Central Heating System•Block Paved Driveway

£140,000 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

UPPER GORNAL

HOMESTEAD CLOSE

•EPC RATINGS AWAITED•An Improved Semi Detached PropertyTwo Bedrooms•Lounge•Dining Kitchen•Refitted Bathroom•Double Glazing Where Stated•Gas Central Heating System•Enclosed Porch•Driveway Parking•Enclosed Rear Garden

£120,000 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

DUDLEY

LANGSTONE ROAD

•An Extended Semi Detached•Two Bedrooms•Extended Kitchen•Extended Dining Room•Lounge•Gas Central Heating System•Double Glazing Where Stated•Garage•Driveway

£100,000 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

LOWER GORNAL

LAWNSWOOD ROAD

•An Extended Semi Detached Residence•Three Bedrooms•Through Lounge•Extended Kitchen•Utility Room•Breakfast Room•Ground Floor Cloakroom•Bathroom•Double Glazing Where Stated•Gas Central Heating System•Garage•No Upward Chain

£125,000 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

WANTED

WE URGENTLY REQUIRE A 3 BEDROOM BAY FRONTED SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY ON OR AROUND PINE RD, TIVIDALE

UPTO £135,000

BUYER WAITING

TIVIDALE

WAKEMAN DRIVE

•EPC C•Three Bedroom Detached•Lounge•Dining Room•Fitted Kitchen•Ground Floor Cloakroom•Garage •En-Suite To Bedroom One

£695 PCM DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

DUDLEY

GLEN ROAD

EPC Grading D •Three Bedroom Semi Detached•Lounge •Fitted Kitchen •Close To Amenities •Close to Schools and Parks •Drive •Viewing Recommended

£550 PCM DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

WEST BROMWICH

WHITGREAVE STREET

•EPC D•Extended Bay Fronted Semi Detached•Three Bedrooms•Through Lounge Dining Room•Extended Kitchen•Drive

£575 PCM DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

TIVIDALE QUAYS, TIPTON

OLD PORT CLOSE

EPC GRADING D•Modern Two Bedroom Semi Detached•Lounge & Modern Kitchen•Recently Modernized To High Standard•Bedroom One Having Fitted Wardrobes•Garage•Viewing Fully Recommended

£525 PCM DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

Sedgley

Viewfield Crescent

•REDUCED •Sought After Location • First Floor •One Double Bedroom •Lounge •Separate Fitted Kitchen •Family Bathroom •DSS Considered With Guarantor •EPC Rating D

£350 PCM DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

Oldbury

Brade Road

•Traditional Three Bedroom Semi Detached •Two Large Reception Rooms •Fitted Kitchen •Two Double Bedrooms and One Large Single •Shower Room •Drive Way •Family Garden •Avalible Now •EPC Rating D

£575 PCM DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

PROPERTIES URGENTLY NEEDED!!!!!!

DUE TO AMAZING NUMBER OF SALES IN 2013, WE URGENTLY REQUIRE PROPERTIES IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

MILKING BANK
TIVIDALE
DUDLEY
SEDGLEY
NETHERTON

PLEASE CALL TO GET YOUR FREE MARKET APPRAISAL 01384 455000

Chestnut Avenue

Dudley

•Extended Three Bedroom Semi-Detached •Two Reception Rooms •Extended Kitchen/Diner •Family Bathroom •Driveway and Garage •Large Rear Garden •Viewing Highly Recommended •Pets Considered •EPC Rating D

£575 PCM DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

Pear Tree Avenue

Tipton

•Family Home •Three Large Bedrooms • Family Bathroom •Modern Fitted Kitchen/Diner •Large Back Garden •Driveway to the Front •Cul-De-Sac Location •Pets Considered •EPC Rating C

£525 PCM DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

sales lettings mortgages **Dudley** 215 High Street ✆ **01384 455000**

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www.YourRentOnTime.net
www.NoSaleNoFees.net
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BRADLEY
Wesley Street

NEW INSTRUCTION

A superb collection of four two bedroom brand new properties built by Parkes Homes with LABC warranty. Briefly comprising Hallway, Dining Kitchen, Lounge, DWC, En-suite Shower Room with allocated parking and private rear garden. Generous specification throughout. Call Jeanette on 07583 580019

£119,950

Tipton
WATTS CLOSE

A well presented two bedroom semi detached house with lounge, dining room, kitchen, driveway, garage and gardens to the rear

£114,950

Netherton
TRYSULL WAY

NEW INSTRUCTION

An immaculate three bedroom semi detached house with accommodation briefly comprising of hallway, lounge, kitchen with dining area, conservatory, upstairs shower room, detached garage, rear gardens and a large driveway to the front

£154,950

WEDNESBURY
Bagnalls Wharf

NEW INSTRUCTION

A first floor modern apartment with hallway, lounge, kitchen, two double bedrooms, bathroom and a balcony from the lounge overlooking the canal, allocated parking and secure entry system

£80,000

PENSNETT
Chapel Street

A three bedroom semi detached house which is well presented throughout with hallway, lounge, dining kitchen, upstairs shower room, driveway to the front and gardens to the front and rear

£94,950

DUDLEY
Priory Road

NEW INSTRUCTION

A three bedroom semi detached house situated on a generous corner plot with hallway, lounge, fitted kitchen with dining area, downstairs bathroom, upstairs wc, driveway to the rear and gardens to the front and rear

£109,950

DUDLEY
Himley Road

An impressive five bedroom semi detached house set in an elevated position with amazing views. The house briefly comprises of lounge, dining room, third reception room, fitted kitchen, cellar, utility room, shower room, further bathroom on first floor, driveway to the rear, garage and garden

£174,950

BRIERLEY HILL
Cressett Avenue

NEW INSTRUCTION

A modertn two bedroom semi detached house with hallway, lounge, kitchen, upstairs bathroom, driveway and garden to the rear

£94,950

DUDLEY
Birmingham Road

NEW PRICE

A three bedroom semi detached house in need of some modernisation with porch, hallway, lounge with dining area, kitchen, upstairs bathroom and gardens to the front and rear

£89,950

Tipton
ANCHOR DRIVE

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

A beautiful modern semi detached house with hallway, downstairs wc, fitted kitchen, lounge, upstairs family bathroom with separate shower, two double bedrooms, rear garden with patio area and driveway to the front. Viewing is highly recommended

£114,950

TIPTON
St Marks Road

A three bedroom end terraced house with through lounge, kitchen, family bathroom, allocated parking and gardens to the front and rear

£97,950

Tividale
CALIFORNIA ROAD

An immaculately presented two bedroom semi detached house with hallway, lounge with dining area, kitchen with large storage cupboard, large laundry room, both bedrooms are a double size, upstairs family bathroom, rear garden with patio area and off road parking to the front

£106,950

DUDLEY
Bennetts Hill

A beautifully presented and deceptively spacious 3/4 bedroom bungalow. Briefly comprising of lounge, dining room, third reception room/bedroom, fourth reception room/bedroom, kitchen, breakfast room, work shop and a family bathroom. To the rear there is a tiered mature enchanting garden and to the front of the property there is ample off road parking.

£229,950

TIVIDALE
Hoylake Drive

NEW PRICE

Located in this highly desirable location this three bedroom detached house briefly comprises of lounge, dining area, fitted kitchen, gardens to the front and rear, driveway and garage.

£159,950

Netherton
LINCOLN ROAD

NEW PRICE

A two bedroom semi detached house with hallway, lounge, dining kitchen, downstairs wc, upstairs bathroom, driveway and garden to the rear

£80,000

Rowley Regis
BRICKHOUSE ROAD

NEW INSTRUCTION

A three bedroom semi detached house in need of some modernisation with hallway, lounge, second reception room, kitchen, upstairs bathroom and gardens to the front and rear

£75,000

GORNAL
Temple Street

A two bedroom mid terraced house with lounge, dining area, kitchen, upstairs bathroom and garden to the rear

£84,950

OLDBURY
Regan Drive

An immaculately presented three bedroom detached house with hallway, lounge, dining area, conservatory, fitted kitchen, en-suite to master bedroom, driveway, garage and gardens to the front and rear. No upward chain.

£169,950

RUSSELLS HALL
Merryfield Road

A three bedroom semi detached house with lounge, dining area, modern fitted kitchen, upstairs family bathroom, garage, gardens to the front and rear and off road parking.

£134,950

DUDLEY
Blackacre Road

NEW PRICE

A splendid, one bed studio apartment - fully furnished with cooking facilities. Gas central heating, council tax, insurance and cleaning fixed at £50 per month. DSS considered with a guarantor.

£345 PCM

DUDLEY
Kent Street

NEW INSTRUCTION

A first floor flat in a detached building with kitchen, lounge, double bedroom and bathroom/WC. with shower over the bath. Off road parking to rear. Unfurnished, available now. Dss considered with guarantor.

£375 PCM

DUDLEY
Southgate Way

NEW INSTRUCTION

A one bedroom apartment close to Dudley Town centre. Fitted kitchen with built in appliances, lounge area, bedroom with en-suite bathroom and shower off. Allocated parking space. NO DSS or PETS.

£395PCM

DUDLEY
View Drive

NEW INSTRUCTION

A first floor, purpose built two bed flat with partial double glazing and electric heating. Lounge/diner with fitted kitchen off, one double and one single bedroom, shower/WC. Single garage available. Unfurnished, available now.

£400 PCM

DUDLEY
Priory Street

TO LET

A one bedroom house, recently refurbished having modern fitted kitchen and bathroom, open plan lounge and kitchen. Available now, will consider DSS with guarantor.

£425 PCM

DUDLEY
Queens Cross

TO LET

A two bedroom end terrace house. Lounge, kitchen/ dinning room. Central heating and double glazing. Courtyard to the rear of the property. Available now, Dss considered with guarantor and good references.

£450 PCM

DUDLEY
Ruiton Street

TO LET

A brand new one bed apartment in the popular Lower Gornal area, with secure off road parking. Having a lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom. Unfurnished, no DSS, no pets. Available now.

£475 PCM

BRIERLEY HILL
Naggersfield Road

TO LET

A three bedroom semi detached house which is well presented. Lounge, kitchen/ diner, three good size bedrooms. Gardens to front and rear, off road parking. Available now. Dss considered with guarantor.

£495PCM

TIPTON
Ferguson Drive

NEW INSTRUCTION

A modern, two bed apartment, open plan living with fitted kitchen and dining area, lounge area, house bathroom/WC with shower over the bath. Allocated parking. Unfurnished, available for viewing. No Dss. No pets

£525 PCM

DUDLEY
Pages Croft

TO LET

A modern two bedroom ground floor apartment. Having open plan lounge and kitchen area to include built in appliances. Master bedroom with en-suite, bathroom. Secure entry, allocated parking. No DSS, no pets, available now.

£525 PCM

BRIERLEY HILL
Byrchen Moor Gardens

TO LET

A modern two bed end terrace having a lounge, dining kitchen and conservatory on the ground floor. Alarmed, unfurnished, available now for long term. No DSS. No Pets

£525 PCM

TIPTON
Ferguson Drive

NEW INSTRUCTION

Modern two bedroom 1st floor apartment, Lounge with sofa, Fitted kitchen with appliances included, Bathroom with shower. Part furnished, allocated parking & secure entry with intercom, No dss. No pets.

£525 PCM

BRIERLEY HILL
Fenton Street

TO LET

Recently modernised three bedroom terrace. Two reception rooms, fitted kitchen with built in oven & hob. Double bedrooms on 1st floor and further attic room. House bathroom. Unfurnished. No Dss. No pets. Available now.

£540 PCM

ROWLEY REGIS
Knowle Road

TO LET

Recently refurbished three bedroom semi detached house. Lounge with separate dining room. Fitted kitchen with oven/ extractor. Bathroom with shower. Unfurnished. No Dss. Available now to view

£560 PCM

Taylors

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BRIERLEY HILL	84-86 High Street	01384 265265
STOURBRIDGE	85 High Street	01384 395555

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WALL HEATH

Clover Lane

This IMPOSING 4 BEDROOM DETACHED and SPACIOUS FAMILY HOUSE is the distinguished Cheltenham by David Payne, enjoying a superb setting within sought after Heathbrook Farm close to country fringe and favoured schools, and offers: Inset Porch, Fine Hall with refitted Cloaks/toilet off, SUPERB 16 x 15 9 LOUNGE, Dining room off (will re-separate), BEATUTIFULLY REFITTED DESIGNER 13 9 x 12 KITCHEN, FOUR SPLENDID BEDROOMS, REFITTED EN SUITE to large master, House Bathroom, Gas Central Heating and Upvc DOUBLE GLAZING. Forelawn plus Double Drive parking to GARAGE plus 24 LONG UTILITY/PLAYROOM and LAID OUT PATIO/LAWN with OPEN REAR ASPECT AND AFTERNOON SUN. EPC Rating D. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£299,950

LOWER GORNAL

Ash Grove

An absolutely outstanding & particularly SPACIOUS, freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached bungalow excellently situated at head of quiet 'backwater' yet within walking distance of the village & all associated amenities. Significantly upgraded by present vendors in recent years, the superb, extremely flexible accommodation provides imposing 30ft. reception hall, 18ft lounge, well equipped breakfast kitchen with a fine range of units & a range, principal bedroom with shower room en suite, two further bedrooms (one presently utilised as a sitting room), reappointed/re-tiled shower room (former bathroom). Former 'garage' converted to a utility/workroom. Block paved foregarden, delightful secluded/landscaped rear garden with fine range of shrubs/plants, patio & decking. EPC: TBA. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £228,950

SEDGLEY

Cotwall End Road

A meticulously maintained, tremendously enhanced & ENLARGED, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached enviably situated within walking distance of country park, well regarded schools & so many other amenities & comprising receptional hall, store, dining room with bay, sitting room with 'living flame' feature fire & patio doors through to brick/uPVC double glazed CONSERVATORY, upgarded kitchen with various integrated units, separate breakfast room, fitted cloakroom & a laundry cupboard. Three bedrooms (all with fitted units), shower room (former bathroom) & an additional reappointed shower room with stylish white suite. Shortened former garage used as substantial store, block paved driveway. Delightful secluded well tended rear garden. EPC Rating: TBA SEDGLEY OFFICE 1902 880888

Offers in the region of £218,000

DUDLEY

Lightwood Road

An EXCEPTIONALLY SPACIOUS, highly individual, freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached constructed for present vendors' own occupation & comprising imposing reception hall, fitted cloakroom, storage cupboards, dining room with bay, 17'10" lounge with 'living flame' feature gas fire & patio doors through to a brick/uPVC double glazed CONSERVATORY, well equipped breakfast kitchen. FOUR DOUBLE BEDROOMS (principal bedroom with fitted units & shower room en suite), bathroom, garage, extensive block paved foregarden & 13ft width side area with potential, secluded/sheltered rear garden. EPC Rating: TBA SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £207,950

DUDLEY

Breamore Crescent, Earls Keep

An attractive, freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed Bryant built detached upon highly favoured development. Accommodation includes uPVC double glazed entrance vestibule, inner hallway, lounge, dining room with bay, breakfast kitchen, store, utility, fitted cloakroom. Principal bedroom with 'walk through' wardrobe section & a shower room en suite, two further bedrooms, bathroom, garage, secluded/sheltered rear garden. EPC: TBA SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £190,000

SEDGLEY

Westcroft Road, Northway

An attractive, gas centrally heated (recent boiler) & uPVC double glazed detached enviably situated in road where properties are only rarely made available for sale. Enhanced accommodation includes entrance hallway, superb L-shape through living/dining room with oak strip floor & contemporary styled oak overmantel with a living flame gas fire, patio doors through to a brick/uPVC double glazed CONSERVATORY, kitchen (prepared for a re-fit). Three generous bedrooms, bathroom, lengthy 26ft garage incorporating a laundry area, delightful well stocked rear garden, block paved foregarden. EPC Rating: TBA SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £189,999

SEDGLEY

South View Road, Northway

An attractive, significantly EXTENDED, freehold, gas centrally heated (recent boiler) & either uPVC or aluminium double glazed semi detached with TREMENDOUS DISTANT VIEWS in favoured/convenient district. Accommodation includes entrance porch, enlarged reception hall, 24'6" through living/dining room, extended L-shape 'cottage style' breakfast kitchen, rear lobby. Three bedrooms, bathroom, large garage with 'mezzanine - style' decking providing extensive storage. Block paved drive, secluded rear garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £164,950

LANESFIELD

Pruden Avenue

An immaculately presented, concientiously maintained, uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated detached bungalow which cimply must be viewed to fully appreciate the standard of accommodation provided. The property briefly comprises entrance hall, stylish lounge,refitted kitchen with a fine range of units & integrated appliances, splendid CONSERVATORY addition, three double bedrooms, bathroom with white corner suite & a pleasant rear garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £146,950

WOLVERHAMPTON

Waverley Crescent, Ettingshall Park

An attractive, conscientiously maintained, primarily uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated semi detached bungalow set at head of cul de sac with larger than average, yet secluded, gardens providing significant potential. Accommodation includes traditional reception hall, lounge, kitchen, 24'7" half uPVC double glazed garden/utility room, two bedrooms, reappointed shower room (former bathroom), extensive parking, small garage, delightful gardens. EPC Rating: TBA SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £144,950

KINGSWINFORD

Ketley Road

This SUCCESSFULLY EXTENDED, NOW IMPRESSIVELY SPACIOUS AND ATTRACTIVELY IMPROVED, TRADITIONAL BAY FRONTED SEMI-DETACHED FAMILY HOME is conveniently located, just a short distance from the centre of Kingswinford, offering VERY WELL APPOINTED accommodation which is GENEROUSLY PROPORTIONED throughout and comprising: Reception Hall, impressively spacious Lounge with Dining/Study Area, extended and attractively refitted Dining Kitchen, THREE GOOD SIZED BEDROOMS, refitted classic white Bathroom, GAS CENTRAL HEATING and UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING. Set back beyond the FULL WIDTH TARMAC DRIVEWAY to the fore with approach to GARAGE and enjoying a good sized rear garden which benefits from an OPEN REAR ASPECT. EPC Rating E. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£139,950

LOWER GORNAL

Grosvenor Road

An exceptionally well presented & tremendously modernised & improved, freehold, gas radiator centrally heated & UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED bungalow occupying a fine corner plot with good distant views to rear. Conveniently situated so close to many amenities, the property has been 'transformed' by present venors in recent years to comprise entrance vestibule, L-shape reception hall, two double bedrooms, reappointed bathroom with white suite/shower, 18'9" lounge, kitchen with a fine range of units, integrated oven, hob & filter, transverse 17'3" garden room (utilised by vendors as sitting/dining room). Delightful well tended gardens & a GARAGE to rear, together with additional slabbed hard standing on private driveway. EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £139,950

NETHERTON

St Peters Road

Enjoying views over The Bumblehole Nature Reserve to the front, this beautifully presented three-storey, uPVC double glazed and gas centrally heated, Three Bedroomed End Townhouse has been conscientiously maintained by the current owners, as a personal inspection will verify. Accommodation briefly comprises: Entrance Hall, stylish Lounge, refitted Kitchen with a fine range of units, Three good Bedrooms, refitted Bathroom with white suite, Garage, driveway and a low maintenance rear garden. EPC Rating D. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265.

£127,950

COSELEY

Robert Wynd, Woodcross

This traditional style, double glazed (vast majority being UPVC) & gas centrally heated semi detached is available with NO UPWARD CHAIN & may be especially of interest to first time buyers or young families. Accommodation briefly comprises entrance hall, lounge, dining room, re-fitted, wet room/utility, three good bedrooms, bathroom with white suite, useful loft, driveway & rear garden. EPC Rating: TBA SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £116,950

DUDLEY

Poplar Green, Old Park Farm estate

A particularly stylish, tremendously enhanced/modernised, freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed semi detached upon favoured 'Green' where houses are rarely made available for sale convenient for so many amenities & with good distant views. Accommodation includes reception hall, lounge, transverse upgraded dining kitchen with uPVC double opening french doors out to the garden, through lobby incorporating laundry section & there is a shower room with contemporary white suite. Three bedrooms (two with wardrobes), reappointed bathroom with white suite, sheltered rear garden with decking. EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region £111,950

PENSNETT

81 Derwent Close

This SPACIOUS WELL PLANNED MODERN SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE enjoys a favoured location within this popular development and, with scope for improvement, offers: Hall with toilet off, SPLENDID LARGE LOUNGE with archway to SEPARATE DINING ROOM off, REFITTED FEATURE KITCHEN with integrated appliances, Three good bedrooms, re-planned SHOWER ROOM and UPDATED GAS CENTRAL HEATING. Forelawn, LONG 50 DRIVE to GARAGE and SECLUDED, SUNNY GARDEN. EPC Rating D. KINGSWINFORD 01384 401777

Price: £114,950

BROCKMOOR

Cressett Lane

This immaculately presented, double glazed gas centrally heated three bedroom semi detached home is situated in an established residential location, convenient for local amenities and may be of particular interest to first time buyers or young families. Accommodation briefly comprises: Entrance Porch, Hall, stylish Lounge, re-fitted Kitchen with a fine range of units, three Bedrooms, Bathroom with white suite, Garage, Driveway and a low maintenance Rear Garden. EPC Rating C. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

£104,950

BRIERLEY HILL

Bradleymore Road

This Victorian style, majority uPVC double glazed, gas centrally heated, two Bedroom Terraced property is available with NO UPWARD CHAIN, and may particularly appeal to FIRST TIME BUYERS. Accommodation briefly comprises: Two Reception Rooms, Kitchen, Guest WC, Two bedrooms, Shower Room and rear Garden. EPC Rating E. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

£74,950

COSELEY

Strathern Drive, Hurst Hill

An EXCEPTIONAL, particularly stylish, uPVC double glazed first floor flat that has been 'transformed' by present vendor over past two years set at head of cul de sac with tremendous distant views. Offered with no upward chain, the accommodation provides individual hall/staircase approach to the landing, lounge, refitted kitchen with a fine range of units, integrated oven, hob & extractor; double bedroom with built in double wardrobe & a further overstair cupboard, reappointed bathroom with contemporary white suite (with chrome detailing) & a shower. Shared grounds, allocated parking. EPC Rating: TBA. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £69,950

SEDGLEY

Dingle View

ENVIABLY SITUATED on periphery of countryside with MAGNIFICENT VIEWS at head of cul-de-sac. Exceptionally well maintained, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed accommodation provides: glazed entrance vestibule, traditional reception hall, lounge, 20 ft dining kitchen with further cupboards, bathroom, two generous bedrooms (one with wardrobes). To the first floor; landing, spacious principal bedroom with wardrobe recess, separate toilet, "walk through" linen store, and 17 ft boarded/plastered loft space (with window) offering tremendous potential. Large 24'8" x 11'1" garage, gardens to front, side & rear. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £249,950

UPPER GORNAL

Old Quarry Drive

An ABSOLUTELY OUTSTANDING imaginatively EXTENDED, freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached enviably situated virtually at head of cul de sac in favoured district with panoramic distant views. The particularly stylish, tremendously enhanced accommodation includes reception hall, elegant lounge with 'living flame' gas fire & walk-in bay, extended dining/sitting room (with lofty ceiling heights incorporating skylight), refitted breakfast kitchen with a fine range of units & many integrated appliances, fitted cloakroom; four generous bedrooms (principal bedroom with a fine range of fitted units & reappointed shower room en suite), reappointed bathroom with contemporary style white suite, garage, block paved parking/drive, delightful secluded well stocked/andscaped rear garden with many fine established shrubs & plants. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £235,000

DUDLEY

Elmstone Close (Off Richborough Drive)

Enjoying TREMENDOUS VIEWS, an OUTSTANDING, significantly EXTENDED, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached that has been 'transformed' by present vendors since construction in 2005 to an exemplary standard. Accommodation entrance vestibule, large well equipped 'hub of the house' breakfast kitchen with a fine range of units & many integrated appliances, fitted cloakroom, 16'2" through dining room (with french doors out to garden) & a sitting room (also with french doors out to garden). Principal bedroom suite (lofty ceiling height) with doors to balcony commanding panoramic views & a dressing room (with potential), three further bedrooms (one with shower room en suite) & stylish house bathroom. DOUBLE BRICK GARAGE & additional parking, large landscaped rear garden.EPC Rating: C. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £232,950

LOWER GORNAL

Cotwall End Road, Straits

An EXTENDED, significantly modernised & improved, Freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached bungalow enviably situated upon imposing corner plot overlooking COUNTRY PARK in favoured district. Set within reasonable distance of so many amenities, the superb accommodation includes entrance vestibule, reception hall, two double bedrooms (one with wardrobes), enlarged reappointed bathroom with white suite, excellent lounge through to dining room beyond (with double french doors out to garden), upgraded kitchen. Secluded gardens to side & rear designed to ensure low maintenance & a brick former GARAGE with side driveway. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £219,950

COSELEY

Flamborough Way

An attractive, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED, gas centrally heated double fronted detached family home in favoured cul de sac just off Chadd Road within reasonable distance of bus/rail transport routes. Enhanced accommodation includes entrance porch, hall, lounge, dining room with patio doors, re-tiled kitchen, utility room, lobby, boiler room & a 'fifth bedroom'. Four bedrooms (principal bedroom with shower room en suite), reappointed & re-tiled bathroom, extensive parking, secluded rear garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £194,950

BEARWOOD	129 Poplar Road	0121 434 4345
HALESOWEN	21 Hagley Road	0121 550 3978
SEDGLEY	2A Dudley Street	01902 880888

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COSELEY

Flamborough Way

An attractive, gas centrally heated & 'oak effect' uPVC double glazed McLean built detached enviably situated virtually at head of cul de sac upon favoured development within reasonable distance of so many amenities, municipal park, bus/rail transport routes, etc. Accommodation provides entrance hall, lounge, dining room (with patio doors), upgraded kitchen, lobby, fitted cloakroom. Principal bedroom with fitted wardrobes & stylish reappointed shower room en suite, three further bedrooms, refitted bathroom with white suite, garage, gardens. No upward chain.EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £194,950

DUDLEY

Fairview Road

A quite exceptional , tremendously ENLARGED & EXTENDED, Edwardian semi detached of character occupying a fine corner plot with EXTENSIVE PARKING. The uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated (combi boiler) accommodation includes; reception hall, 20' sitting room with bay, separate dining room, stunning 22' breakfast kitchen with a magnificent range of units & many integrated appliances, fitted cloakroom, 31' double glazed conservatory. FOUR BEDROOMS, tiled shower room (former bathroom).Many period features. Large garage, block paved parking, delightful sheltered garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £184,950

SEDGLEY

Langland Drive

A uPVC double glazed, gas centrally heated (combi boiler) link detached that has been "transformed" by present vendors in recent years to a tremendous specification conveniently situated within walking distance of so many amenities, and enjoying PANORAMIC DISTANT VIEWS from front. Superb accommodation includes; enlarged porch, transverse lounge with Living Flame feature gas fire, dining room with double doors through to a brick/uPVC double glazed CONSERVATORY, recently refitted kitchen with various integrated appliances & wood block work surfaces. Three bedrooms, reappointed/retiled bathroom with stylish white suite. Garage, further store, professionally landscaped rear garden, and lengthy foregarden with block paved drive. EPC Rating: E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £178,950

DUDLEY

Elmstone Close

Enviably situated just of Richborough Drive with PANORAMIC DISTANT VIEWS, this most attractive, stylish, uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated detached family home occupies a corner plot & is in exemplary order throughout. Accommodation comprises entrance hall, guest w.c., kitchen with a fine range of units, transverse lounge/dining room, three good bedrooms (principal bedroom with en suite), shower room, burglar alarm, garage, block paved driveway & a landscaped rear garden. EPC Rating C.SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £176,950

LOWER GORNAL

NEW PRICE

Milton Crescent, Straits

A primarily uPVC double glazed & gas radiator centrally heated, two double bedroom detached bungalow with garage enviably situated upon favoured section of 'The Straits' with rear garden abutting onto fields & the golf driving range beyond. Offering further potential, the accommodation includes entrance vestibule, central reception hall, two double bedrooms (principal bedroom with a fine range of fitted units), bathroom, kitchen, pantry, lounge & brick/uPVC double glazed CONSERVATORY, garage, sheltered/secluded rear garden. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

WAS £179,950 NOW £171,000

SEDGLEY

Dormston Drive

NO UPWARD CHAIN. Within walking distance of Sedgley's Bull Ring in quiet cul de sac, an outstanding, exceptionally stylish & well appointed, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached that has been 'transformed' by present vendors over the years. Accommodation provides entrance hallway, cupboard, superb lounge with living flame gas fire, transverse upgraded 'hub of the house' breakfast kitchen & a substantial brick/uPVC double glazed CONSERVATORY. Three bedrooms (one with wardrobes), reappointed bathroom with white suite, block paved foregarden drive & secluded/sheltered rear garden, brick former garage.EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £169,950

SEDGLEY

St Brides Close, Northway

Enviably situated in short/quiet cul de sac just off Langland Drive, a superb, conscientiously maintained, freehold, gas centrally heated (combi boiler) & uPVC double glazedsemi detached. Accommodation includes porch, reception hall, store, dining room with bay, lounge with patio doors, kitchen, lobby, separate toilet. Three generous bedrooms, recently upgraded & re-tiled bathroom with white suite, garage, delightful secluded rear garden, extensive parking. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £169,950

WALL HEATH Victoria Street

£5,000 REDUCTION

This SUCCESSFULLY EXTENDED, NOW VERY SPACIOUS SEMI DETACHED FAMILY HOME is pleasantly situated within this highly desirable location, offering GENEROUSLY PROPORTIONED and ATTRACTIVELY IMPROVED accommodation including GAS CENTRAL HEAING, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING and comprising: entrance porch, reception hall, very large lounge with dining area off, extended and refitted kitchen with built in appliances, utility room, THREE GOOD SIZED BEDROOMS, refitted bathroom and SUPERB LOFT. Set back beyond the LARGE BLOCK PAVED DRIVEWAY and enjoying an EXCELLENT SIZED AND ATTRACTIVELY LAID OUT REAR GARDEN. EPC Rating E. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£164,950

LOWER GORNAL

Robert Street

DECEPTIVELY SPACIOUS! - Highly individual, THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS, gas centrally heated & mostly uPVC double glazed DETACHED conveniently situated within walking distance of so many amenities. The concientiously maintained accommodation includes reception hall, 15ft lounge, 17'5" dining kitchen (presently sub-divided to form separate kitchen & dining room areas) with patio doors out to the garden, landing, three double bedrooms, bathroom. Carport, separate toilet, delightful well tended rear garden with wide range of shrubs/plants & ample parking to front. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £159,950

LOWER GORNAL

Deepdale Lane

Deceptively spacious, ENLARGED, three bedoom semi detached with BASEMENT FLAT that has been 'transformed' in recent years and the gas centrally heated, uPVC double glazed accommodation comprises: Ground floor - entrance porch, reception hall, lounge, dining room & enlarged/updated kitchen with 'conservatory section', large store/utility room (former garage). First floor - three bedrooms & a reappointed shower room (former bathroom). Staircase (approach from hall or the store room) down to a 'lower ground floor flat' comprising entrance section, bathroom, living/dining/bedroom areas with a kitchen section. Neat rear garden, good distant views. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £149,950

GORNAL WOOD

Mount Close

An exceptionally STYLISH, tremendously enhanced & ENLARGED, freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed semi detached in quiet/short cul de sac with good distant views from the rear. The 'transformed' accommodation includes entrance vestibule, dining room, lounge (with double opening uPVC double glazed doors out to the garden, enlarged/refitted kitchen with a fine range of units & various integraged appliances, further sitting room. Three generous bedrooms, reappointed bathroom with white contemporary style suite (chrome detailing), drive, good sized garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £149,950

LOWER GORNAL

NEW PRICE

The Straits

An absolutely outstanding, exceptionally well appointed, gas centrally heated (combi boiler) and uPVC double glazed semi detached that has been "transformed" by present vendors in recent years. Excellently situated abutting onto and overlooking fields at the rear, and being convenient for so many amenities. The accomodation includes; reception hall, superb through living/dining room with patio doors, refitted kitchen with a fine range of "Old English Cream" effect units, pantry.Three generous bedrooms (one with fitted wardrobes), stylish reappointed shower room (former bathroom) with white suite/chrome detailing. Gated driveway to brick garage, landscaped "low maintenance" garden. EPC Rating D.SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

WAS £153,950 NOW £149,950

DUDLEY

Burton Road

An ENLARGED, tremendously modernised & improved, Freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed semi detached with very flexible room arrangements. Accommodation includes; porch, reception hall, granny/teenager room (with toilet/handbasin en suite), lounge, dining room, refitted kitchen, pantry, large utility/laundry room. Three bedrooms, bathroom with white suite. Parking to front, rear garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £148,950

SEDGLEY

Richmond Road

A traditional, freehold, gas centrally heated (combi boiler) & uPVC double glazed inter-war semi detached that has been significantly modernised/ refurbished in recent months set in convenient district within reasonable walking distance of Sedgley's Bull Ring/associated amenities. Various period features remain (wood stripped floor/fireplaces/picture rails) and the accommodation includes porch, imposing reception hall, lounge with bay, dining room (with double french doors), refitted kitchen with oven, hob & extractor, pantry, three bedrooms, upgraded bathroom with white suite, narrow 'garage', garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £145,000

COSELEY

Clifton Street, Hurst Hill

This immaculately presented, uPVC double glazed, gas centrally heated detached bungalow forms part of a development of just three properties 'tucked away' just off Clifton Street & is well worthy of internal inspection. The property is available with NO UPWARD CHAIN & briefly comprises entrance porch, hall, lounge/dining room, kitchen, splendid CONSERVATORY addition, two good bedrooms, wet room, block paved driveway & a low maintenance rear garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £139,950

LOWER GORNAL

Summit Place

This traditional, majority double glazed & gas centrally heated semi detached is situated in an established location convenient for local amenities. Accommodation briefly comprises entrance hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, driveway & rear garden. EPC Rating E, SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £130,000

UPPER GORNAL

The Paddock

A conscientiously maintained, comparatively spacious, Freehold, gas centrally heated & double glazed semi detached with further potential set in short/quiet cul-de-sac with GOOD DISTANT VIEWS. Accommodation includes; entrance porch, traditional reception hall, cloaks/store, through living/dining room with bay, kitchen, pantry, Three bedrooms, bathroom. Large contractors garage with store & laundry room off, garden. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £130,000

DUDLEY

Old Park Road

An attractive, considerably improved double glazed (vast majority of units being uPVC) & gas centrally heated semi detached situated in an established location & well worthy of internal inspection. The well maintained property comprises entrance porch, hall, lounge, refitted breakfast kitchen with a fine range of units, three bedrooms, bathroom with white suite, driveway & rear garden with large timber outbuilding. EPC rating: E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £122,950

COSELEY

NEW PRICE

Turls Hill Road, Hurst Hill

An intriguing, freehold, gas centrally heated & mostly uPVC double glazed semi detached of character enviably situated in, effectively, a 'country lane' setting overlooking fields. Accommodation includes porch, hall, walk-in store, sitting room, lounge, upgraded kitchen, conservatory, three bedrooms, bathroom, gardens. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

WAS £124,950 NOW £119,950

UPPER GORNAL

Greenhill Road

A spacious, gas centrally heated (combi boiler), and uPVC double glazed semi detached conveniently situated within reasonable walking distance of so many amenities & facilities in popular district. Accommodation includes; reception hall, 21' through living/dining room with feature living flame gas fire, spacious breakfast kitchen. Three generous bedrooms, bathroom. Side passageway with two further stores, and a separate toilet., concrete panel GARAGE (kerb dropped), and a delightful traditional level rear garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £115,000

GORNAL WOOD

Flavells Lane

A distinctive & highly individual, freehold, uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated double fronted cottage of character with further potential. Enjoying good distant views from the front, the property is set well back from the lane (pedestrian access ony) and comprises entrance porch, dining room, central hallway, lounge with patio doors, kitchen, bathroom, THREE BEDROOMS, garden designed for 'low maintenance'. No Parking. EPC Rating E.SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £95,950

LOWER GORNAL

Grosvenor Road

This beautifully presented, uPVC double glazed, gas centrally heated, Ground Floor flat has been subjected to a comprehensive scheme of modernisation/improvement, and is available with NO UPWARD CHAIN. The stylish accommodation briefly comprises; entrance hall, lounge, refitted kitchen with a fine range of units, double bedroom, bathroom with a white suite. Garage in separate bock, and lawned communal gardens. EPC Rating C. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £69,950

LOWER GORNAL

Five Ways Court, Lake Street

50% SHARE FOR SALE. A comparatively SPACIOUS, stylish, gas centrally heated, & uPVC double glazed FIRST FLOOR flat with good distant views forming part of gated development. Vendors 50% share available for sale (other 50% owners by Housing Association who charge a fair market rental). "Entry phone" system to shared hall/landing with flat comprising; reception hall, superb 16'8" lounge with well equipped kitchen beyond with a fine range of "beech" effect units & integrated appliances. TWO BEDROOMS (principal bedroom with shower room en suite & white suite), bathroom. Allocated parking, communal grounds. EPC Rating C. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £51,950 for Vendors 50% Share

DUDLEY

Attingham Drive, 'Sovereign Heights'

50% SHARE. A comparatively SPACIOUS, Upvc double glazed Ground Floor Apartment having a slightly larger design than others on the development, and representing an ideal opportunity for first time buyers where the present owners 50% share is available for sale. "Entry phone" style security system to entrance lobby (front & rear) with the apartment comprising; central reception hall, 18 ft through living room with patio doors, and a well equipped kitchen section having a range of stylish "maple" effect units & various integrated appliances, TWO BEDROOMS (principal bedroom with built in double wardrobe and a shower room en suite), bathroom with a white suite. Communal grounds, allocated parking. EPC Rating C. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £47,500 for vendors 50% share

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Lot 2 Selly Oak Centre, 646-648 Bristol Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham ..... **Commercial Vacant**
Lot 3 65 Thornthwaite Close, Rednal, Birmingham ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 4 9 Chiswell Road, Winson Green, Birmingham ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 5 49 Claypit Lane, West Bromwich ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 6 Land Forming Site of 1A/1B Duke Street, West Bromwich ..... **Land**
Lot 7 Land off Nicholls Road, Tipton ..... **Land**
Lot 8 Land off Nicholls Road, Opposite Princes End Industrial Park, Tipton ..... **Land**
Lot 9 257 Glastonbury Crescent, Mossley, Bloxwich ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 10 Yr Hen Siop Plas Panteidal, Aberdovey ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 11 Golchdy Plas Panteidal, Aberdovey ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 12 Bungalow 1 Plas Panteidal, Aberdovey ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 13 Bungalow 2 Plas Panteidal, Aberdovey ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 14 Bungalow 3 Plas Panteidal, Aberdovey ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 15 Bungalow 4 Plas Panteidal, Aberdovey ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 16 Bungalow 5 Plas Panteidal, Aberdovey ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 17 Bungalow 6 Plas Panteidal, Aberdovey ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 18 Bungalow 7 Plas Panteidal, Aberdovey ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 19 Bungalow 8 Plas Panteidal, Aberdovey ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 20 Bungalow 9 Plas Panteidal, Aberdovey ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 21 Bungalow 10 Plas Panteidal, Aberdovey ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 22 Chalet M Plas Panteidal, Aberdovey ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 23 Chalet 62 Plas Panteidal, Aberdovey ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 24 Unit A Great Hampton Street, Birmingham ..... **Commercial Vacant**
Lot 25 71 Dogpool Lane, Selly Oak, Birmingham ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 26 32 St Agnes Road, Moseley, Birmingham ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 27 76 Hubert Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 28 86 & 86A High Street, West Bromwich ..... **Commercial Investment**
Lot 29 20 Daniels Road, Birmingham ..... **Residential Investment**
Lot 30 715-726 Parkfield Road, Wolverhampton ..... **Commercial Investment**
Lot 31 11 Barnett Road, Willenhall ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 32 177 Acheson Road, Shirley, Solihull ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 33 2 Compton Court, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 34 59 Hanbury Road, Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 35 61 Hanbury Road, Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 36 9 Long Lane, Blackheath, West Midlands ..... **Commercial Investment**
Lot 37 127 Abingdon Road, Perry Common, Birmingham ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 38 21 Pritchard Close, Smethwick, Warley ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 39 Garages on the South West Side of Westhouse Grove off Brandwood Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham ..... **Garages**
Lot 40 207 Aldershaw Road, South Yardley, Birmingham ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 41 18-19 Worcester Street, Kidderminster ..... **Commercial Investment**
Lot 42 7 Marley Heights, Colwall Walk, Acocks Green, Birmingham ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 43 242 Stafford Road, Wolverhampton ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 44 1 Albion Cottages, Birmingham Road, Water Orton ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 45 20 Ellesmere Road & 41 Wood Street, Shrewsbury ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 46 22 Henwood Road, Compton, Wolverhampton ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 47 42 Nova Croft, Coventry ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 48 3 Berrington Road, Leamington Spa ..... **Commercial Vacant**
Lot 49 50 Harman Road, Wylde Green, Birmingham ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 50 28 Regent Road, Handsworth, Birmingham ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 51 58 Hospital Street, Walsall ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 52 110 Weybourne Road, Great Barr, Birmingham ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 53 Land to the rear of 9 Oldbury Wells, Bridgnorth, Shropshire ..... **Land**
Lot 54 862 Pershore Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 55 98 Stafford Street, Walsall ..... **Commercial Vacant**
Lot 56 164 Rutland Avenue, Penn, Wolverhampton ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 57 126-126A Lea Village, Kitts Green, Birmingham ..... **Commercial Vacant**
Lot 58 Flat 9, 3 Colton Square, Leicester ..... **Residential Investment**
Lot 59 Flat 21, 3 Colton Square, Leicester ..... **Residential Investment**
Lot 60 Flat 25, 3 Colton Square, Leicester ..... **Residential Investment**
Lot 61 Former Garage Site Church Green, Bilston, Wolverhampton ..... **Land**
Lot 61A Land at Hospital Lane (Rear of 59b Mason Street) Coseley ..... **Land**
Lot 62 23C Church Lane, Wolverhampton ..... **Commercial Vacant**
Lot 63 Unit 134 Middlemore Industrial Estate, Smethwick, Birmingham ..... **Commercial Vacant**
Lot 64 28 Fowlmere Road, Great Barr, Birmingham ..... **Residential Vacant**
Lot 65 62 Fowlmere Road, Great Barr, Birmingham ..... **Residential Vacant**
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STOURBRIDGE, MULBERRY GARDENS

● Stylish ground floor apartment ● Two bedrooms master with ensuite shower room ● Impressive open plan lounge ● Fitted kitchen with built in appliances ● Splendid bathroom ● Gas central heating and upvc double glazing ● Intercom entrance hall ● Delightful communal gardens & allocated parking space

£595 PCM NO DSS NO PETS NEW

ROWLEY REGIS, POOL LANE

● Impressive refurbished terrace property, three bedrooms ● Splendid lounge with leather sofas, separate dining room ● Superb fitted kitchen with built in oven, hob, washing machine, fridge/freezer & microwave ● Ground floor bathroom with shower over the bath ● Gas central heating, upvc double glazing & delightful rear garden

£525 PCM - NO DSS NEW

DUDLEY, FALCON WAY

● Impressive semi detached property, two double bedrooms ● Splendid lounge with feature fire, superb fitted kitchen with oven & hob ● Attractive refitted bathroom with shower over the bath ● Gas central heating, upvc double glazing ● Delightful rear garden, garage & drive way

£525 PCM - NO DSS NO PETS NEW

ROWLEY REGIS, HANOVER ROAD

● Superb modern ground floor apartment ● Attractive open plan living area with french doors from lounge ● Stylish fitted kitchen with built in oven and hob and integral fridge & freezer ● Two double bedrooms master with spacious ensuite, bathroom ● upvc double glazing, thermostat controlled heating system ● Private patio off lounge, allocated parking space

£495 PCM NO DSS - NO PETS NEW

MALTHOUSE DRIVE, DUDLEY

● Impressive modern house ● Two bedrooms, splendid lounge, superb breakfast kitchen with built in oven & hob, ground floor w.c/cloakroom ● Bathroom with shower over the bath, upvc double glazing, gas central heating, delightful rear garden & drive way

£495 PCM - NO DSS - NO PETS NEW

RIPLEY GROVE, DUDLEY

● Impressive & stylish first floor apartment ● One double bedroom, splendid lounge combined with superb fitted kitchen comprising of built in oven, hob, fridge & washing machine, bathroom with shower over the bath ● upvc double glazing, gas central heating ● Small side/rear garden garage & allocated parking space

£450 PCM - NO DSS - NO PETS NEW

BRIERLEY HILL, BAGUE WALK

● Impressive first floor apartment, two bedrooms ● Superb lounge, splendid open plan lounge and kitchen with oven, hob, fridge/freezer and washer/dryer ● Attractive bathroom with shower over bath ● Low tariff economy electric heaters, upvc double glazing ● Allocated parking space ● £1050 DEPOSIT

£420 PCM - NO DSS - NO PETS NEW

BRIERLEY HILL, DADFORD VIEW

● Impressive first floor apartment ● Two bedrooms, master with built in wardrobes ● Splendid lounge, superb refitted kitchen with cooker ● Bathroom with shower over the bath ● Electric heating, double glazing, intercom entrance hall & allocated parking

£395 PCM - NO PETS NEW

BRIERLEY HILL, GORDON CRESCENT

● Superb ground floor apartment, one double bedroom ● Splendid lounge with modern electric fire ● Attractive fitted kitchen with cooker and distinctive dining area ● Bathroom with shower over the bath ● upvc double glazing, electric heating ● Delightful front garden & garage to the rear

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Offers around £129,950

WITHYMOOR VILLAGE
MONKSWELL CLOSE

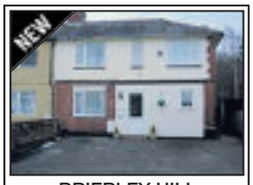
Most pleasantly situated in this popular cul-de-sac close to WITHYMOOR PRIMARY SCHOOL, this attractively presented, neatly improved Modern 3 Bed End Townhouse provides deceptively spacious GAS CENTRALLY HEATED AND UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED accom ideal for the young family or First Time Buyer . Hall, stylish refitted Kitchen, delightful Lounge, CONSERVATORY, 3 Bedrooms (constructed as 2 but easily reconverted if required), fitted Bathroom, lawned rear garden with pleasant outlook and Garage in separate block close by.EPC=D

Offers around £117,500

BROCKMOOR
MOUNT AVENUE

Pleasantly situated at head of this small respected cul-de sac close to the centre of Brockmoor, this attractively presented EXTENDED 3 Bed Semi provides deceptively spacious GAS CENTRALLY HEATED AND UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED accom ideal for the discerning young family or First Time Buyer. Hall, stylish Lounge, superb refitted Kitchen with built-in oven and hob and adjoining Dining area, LAUNDRY/UTILITY WITH DOWNSTAIRS W.C OFF , 3 Bedrooms (2 with fitted wardrobes), attractively fitted Bathroom with Shower, useful Loft, pleasant good sized wide level rear Gardens and Driveway for 2 cars to the front.EPC=E

Offers over £115,000



BRIERLEY HILL
WESTWOOD STREET

This superbly presented, extended 3 Bed Semi-Detached provides deceptively spacious GAS CENTRALLY HEATED And UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED family accommodation in this popular and convenient address. Briefly comprises:- Hall, Spacious Lounge, Separate Dining Room, SUPERB REFITTED LARGE KITCHEN EXTENSION, 3 Good Bedrooms, REFITTED BATHROOM with Shower, Pleasant well kept Rear Gardens with Private Outlook and Driveway for 2 Cars to the Front. EPC=E

Offers around £109,950

QUARRY BANK
BOBS COPPICE WALK

Pleasantly situated on a "corner" plot in this ever popular address, this sizeable 3 Bed Semi-Detached provides spacious DOUBLE GLAZED accomodation with night storage heating ideal for the young family and although reuiring certain upgrading provides tremendous further potential. With NO UPWARD CHAIN the accom includes: Hall, attractive Lounge, Dining Room, large Breakfast Kitchen, side Lobby with Downs W.C. off, 3 excellent sized Bedrooms, Bathroom, sep W.C., delightfully kept front, rear and side gardens with driveway and potential for Garage (subject to planning consents etc).EPC=TBA

Offers around £104,500

PENSNETT
BLEWITT STREET

Enjoying superb views over Grove Pool to the rear, this delightfully presented, much improved 3 Bed Semi-Detached provides spacious GAS CENTRALLY HEATED and UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED accom ideal for the discerning young family or First Time Buyer and must definitely be seen. Briefly comprises :- Hall, Downstairs W/C , Spacious 'L' shaped Lounge with separate Dining area, ATTRACTIVELY FITTED KITCHEN WITH BUILT IN WASHING MACHINE AND FRIDGE, 3 good Bedrooms, attractively fitted Bathroom with shower, pleasant level rear Gardens with splendid views and Driveway for 2 cars. EPC=TBA

Offers around £102,950

WORDSLEY
SWANFIELD ROAD

This superbly presented, beautifully appointed One Bed Semi-Detached Bungalow provides deceptively spacious GAS CENTRALLY HEATED and UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED accom ideal for the most discerning of buyers and which simply must be seen. Very conveniently positioned on a bus route the accomodation includes: Porch, attractive Lounge, superb refitted Kitchen, Double Glazed Conservatory, Double Bedroom with custom built fitted wardrobes, sumptous refitted Shower room, pleasant low maintainence rear Garden and wide driveway providing off road parking. EPC=TBA

Offers around £97,500

PENSNETT
BRYCE ROAD

This attractively presented neatly improved and EXTENDED 2 Bedroomed Semi provides well planned GAS CENTRALLY HEATED AND PART UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED accomodation ideal for the young family of First Time buyer and enjoys a pleasant position in this popular and convenient address. Briefly comprises :- Porch, Hall, spacious Lounge, spacious extended REFITTED DINING KITCHEN with built-in oven and hob, 2 good Bedrooms, fitted Shower room, good sized rear gardens with pleasant outlook and Driveway to the front.EPC=D

Offers around £96,950

BRIERLEY HILL
FOXDALE DRIVE

An attractively presented Modern 2 Bed First Floor Flat providing well planned UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED accom ideal for the First Time Buyer or single person and is pleasasntly situated on this ever popular and convenient development. Available with NO UPWARD CHAIN the accommodation includes:- Communal Security Controlled Entrance, Hall, Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, 2 Bedrooms, Fitted Bathroom with Shower, Maintained Communal Gardens and allocated Car Parking Space.EPC=D

Offers around £69,950

OAKHAM
DINGLE CLOSE

A delightfully presented Traditional 3 Bed Semi-Detached pleasantly situated just into this sought after address and providing spacious GAS CENTRALLY HEATED AND UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED family accomodation to include: Porch, Hall, spacious Lounge with sep Dining Area, fitted Kitchen with built-in oven and hob, 3 good Bedrooms, SUPERB REFITTED BATHROOM with sep shower, 26' Tandem side Garage, pleasant southerly facing rear Gardens and driveway to front.EPC=D

Offers around £144,950

BRIERLEY HILL
DELPH ROAD

Pleasantly situated in this popular address, this much improved, Extended 3 Bed Semi-Detached provides versatile, spacious GAS CENTRALLY HEATED and UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED accom ideal for the young family. Hall, Lounge, sep Dining Room, CONSERVATORY, attractively fitted extended Breakfast Kitchen with built-in oven, hob and dishwasher, Laundry/Utility Room, Downs Shower Room, 3 good Bedrooms, fitted Bathroom, feature Attic Bedroom, pleasant good sized rear Gardens and block paved driveway EPC=E

Offers around £134,950

BROCKMOOR
FOXFOOT DRIVE

This superbly presented Modern 2 Bed Semi is very pleasantly situated off a private driveway leading from this popular cul-de-sac and represents a splendid opportunity for the discerning First Time Buyer or young family. With GAS CENTRAL HEATING AND STYLISH UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING the deceptively spacious accomodation includes: Porch/Hall, spacious Lounge, SUPERB REFITTED KITCHEN with built-in oven and hob, 2 generous Bedrooms, SUMPTUOUS RE-APPOINTED SHOWER ROOM, pleasant landscaped rear Gardens , block paved driveway and additional parking space in small bay opposite.EPC=D

Offers around £118,500

BROCKMOOR
BRIARS CLOSE

This attractively presented Modern 2 Bedroomed Intermediate Townhouse provides deceptively spacious DOUBLE GLAZED accomodation ideal for the First Time buyer,young couple or retired and is pleasantly situated in this more secluded development close to local amenities. Briefly comprises :- Porch/Hall, stylish Lounge, SUPERB REFITTED DINING KITCHEN, Sun Room/Conservatory, 2 well proportioned Bedrooms, fitted Bathroom with shower, enclosed low maintainence rear Garden and car parking space. EPC=E

Offers around £95,950

BRIERLEY HILL
MORRIS COURT BULL ST

This superbly presented Modern 2 Bed First Floor Apartment provides spacious gas centrally heated and Upvc doubled glazed accom AVAILABLE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SHARED OWNERSHIP INITIATIVE (50% SHARE).Ideal for the discerning first time buyer and briefly comprises: Security Controlled Entrance, Spacious Hall, attractive Lounge opening to superbly Fitted Kitchen with built in oven and hob and washing machine, 2 Excellent Bedrooms (master with expensive fitted wardrobes), Lovely Bathroom with shower, Allocated Car Parking Space and Communally Kept Gardens.EPC=B

Offers around £41,950

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KINGSWINFORD

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£725 pcm
Link Detached Property, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, WC, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished

UPPER GORNAL

VICARAGE ROAD
£550 pcm
Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Garden, Unfurnished EPC -D

WOODSETTON

FLAVELL STREET
£525 pcm
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WORDSLEY

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£645 PCM
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PENSNETT

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The Mercedes CLA offers a choice of 1.6-litre petrol or 2.1-litre diesel engines

The largely A-Class-influenced cabin fascia works well on the CLA

Smaller Merc proved the cynics were just wrong

By Iain Dooley

IN the four-door coupe market, Mercedes has form. When it was launched, the original CLS prompted much head-scratching from the press and was dismissed by many as little more than a glamorous sideshow. Oh, how wrong they were.

For buyers seeking E-Class levels of road presence but wanting something more eye-catching than a traditional saloon, the CLS delivered in spades and was bought in droves. So, how do you expand the appeal of something like the CLS? Simple, you build a smaller one and call it the CLA.

Seeking to cause the same disruption in the compact executive saloon market, the CLA's aim is to add some much-needed glamour and, crucially, encourage younger buyers to embrace what's often viewed as an older person's brand.

Key to the CLA's appeal is that it doesn't look like a conventional Mercedes. Displaying similar design cues as the latest generation A-Class at the front and a pleasingly shapely rear, the car's appearance blends visual appeal with the ability to slice through the air more efficiently than your average small saloon – Mercedes has the numbers to prove it, too.

Rakish looks and the CLA's coupe-like profile aside, the car is different mechanically from your average Mercedes C-Class in that it's front-wheel drive.

This bucking of the premium market trend continues with power coming exclusively from four-cylinder engines – petrol and diesel – including a four-wheel drive AMG version.

UK buyers initially get a choice of a 1.6-litre 122-horsepower petrol motor badged as CLA 180 and a 2.1-litre 170-horsepower CLA 220 CDI diesel unit. Launch specification is a six-speed manual transmission for the former and seven-speed direct-shift automatic for the latter.

The CLA is a two-trim range – Sport and AMG Sport – boasting comfort and sport suspension set-ups respectively.

The reality is a car that, despite being a fraction longer than a C-Class, feels surprisingly compact on the road.

Comfortably

The largely A-Class-influenced cabin fascia works well, especially the generously dimensioned central colour display and familiar switchgear, and there's enough room up front for two adults to sit comfortably. In the back, it's not quite the compromise you might first think.

Granted, headroom is modest for all the obvious reasons, but there's enough legroom for adults if the journey is short, yet there's plenty of space for a small but growing family. Space isn't an issue in the boot – all 470 litres of it – and there's the double bonus of folding rear seats.

Funky looks and reassuringly high levels of real-world practicality notwithstanding, the car's also got to drive well.

In front-drive guise, the CLS delivers a solid performance on a wide variety of road surfaces. The difference between comfort and sport set-ups is noticeable, although it's good to know that the latter doesn't disgrace itself on poorly surfaced urban roads.

The lack of pitch and roll when travelling at speed plus above-average levels of cabin refinement can be credited to the car's well-sorted chassis and class-leading aerodynamics respectively.

And in diesel guise, a choice likely to be popular with company car drivers, the combination of low noise and ample pulling power help cement the CLA's engaging driver-focused appeal.

For the UK, Mercedes is pitching the CLA as a youthful alternative to conventional compact executive models.

As such, there's a predictable sporty theme extending past the car's model names; 18in wheels are the default size for both trim levels along with sports front seats and a chunky three-spoke steering wheel.

The icing on the cake is the car's polished road manners, which do much to banish any idea that it's a car that's abandoned substance for style.

Bumper to bumper

Mercedes-Benz CLA 220CDI Sport. Sport range from £24,355

Engine: 2.1-litre diesel unit developing 170bhp.
Transmission: Seven-speed direct shift automatic transmission, driving the front wheels.
Performance: Maximum speed 142mph, 0-62mph 8.2 seconds.
Economy: 62.8mpg.
CO2 Rating: 117g/km.

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). ADAM JAM 1.2i 16v VVT: Urban: 39.8 (7.1), Extra-urban: 67.3 (4.2), Combined: 53.5 (5.3). CO_2 emissions 124g/km.

Model shown ADAM JAM 1.2i 16v VVT £11,255 plus Metallic Paint £525, 17" Hurricane Alloys £300, Roof Colour Pack £200, Chrome Pack £125, Black Logo Bar £100, Splat Graphics on A+C Pillars £150, White Door Mirrors with Splat Graphics £100, Exterior Light Pack £200, Rear View Mirror Splat Graphic £50, Advanced Park Assist inc. Side Blind Spot Detection £450. Total OTR cost £13,455. Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply. Visit www.vauxhall.co.uk/warranty

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59 Reg	ZAFIRA 1.6 ACTIVE 5 door, Black, 26,000 miles	£7995
60 Reg	ASTRA1.8 SRi X-Pack, 5 door, Silverlight, 59,000 miles	£6995
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10 Reg	ASTRA 1.6 EXCLUSIVE 5 door, Technical Grey, 20,000 miles	£8495
59 Reg	CORSA 1.4 SE 5 door, Star Silver, 46,000 miles	£6995
10 Reg	ASTRA SRi 2.0 CDTi 5 door, Flame Red, 36,000 miles	£10750
61 Reg	ASTRA SE 2.0 CDTi 5 door, Black, 9,000 miles	£11995
58 Reg	CORSA 1.4 DESIGN 3 door, Black, 38,000 miles	£6250
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10 Reg	ASTRA 1.6 ELITE 5 door, Star Silver, 41,000 miles	£7495
10 Reg	ASTRA SRi 1.6 TURBO 5 door, Power Red, 31,000 miles	£9495
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12 Reg	CORSA 1.4 SXi 5 door, Sovereign Silver, 9,000 miles	£8995
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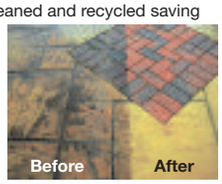

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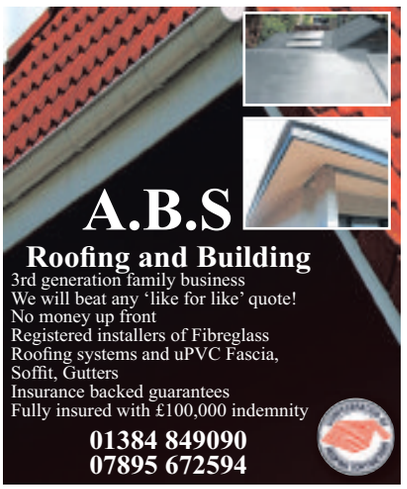

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07929 320404

LANDROVER DISCOVERY R reg, MoT October, tax December, £1,995 ono. 07534 048038.

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01675 464410 or 07533 066425.

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PEUGEOT 106XN, 3dr, L reg, vgc, MoT, tax, bargain £460.
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RENAULT LAGUNA 1.8RN, 52, 5dr, tax, MoT, ½ leather, full electrics, main dealer fsh, met red, CC, £950 ono. 07954 419531.

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RENAULT Megane Cabriolet, 2001, good condition, full MoT, SH, £895. 07714 909478.

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SAAB 95 ARC 2.3, auto, 2002, leather, climate control, fully loaded, 12 months MoT, 2 months tax, £850. 07913 025392.

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01384 251328.

VAUXHALL ASTRA 1600 51 reg., MoT Oct, tax end Apr, excellent runner £700 ono.
01384 251328.

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Marvin's marvel of of a goal seals win

Heather St Johns 2
Gornal Athletic 4

TWO goals in the space of 13 minutes settled a lively Midland Alliance match.

Gornal caused their own problems as sluggish defending let Heather lead on 12 minutes.

Shane Gibbs beat the offside trap and scored at the second attempt after James Pemberton parried. Dan Tymon should have doubled their advantage but he drove straight at Pemberton.

Gornal's Marvin Nisbett levelled against the run of play on 25 minutes with a powerful finish after being played in by Calum Martin.

However, Heather's Shane Gibbs restored the lead on 35 minutes, with a neat finish past the advancing Pemberton.

After the restart Gornal took control. Heather's keeper let them back in, dropping a Pete Wood free-kick for Curtis Tilt to equalise.

The home side were reduced to 10 men when Shane Gibbs received his marching orders following a second yellow card for a late challenge on Pete Wood.

Gornal scored twice in 13 minutes to secure the points through Dave Meese, whose low shot found the bottom corner.

The goal of the game came on 75 minutes – a second for Marvin Nisbett, who ran at the Heather defence, jinking past four defenders and firing his shot high into the far corner of the net.

Results, fixtures

Dudley & Cradley Heath
Results

Ray Turley Memorial Trophy Group 2: Baggeridge 0 Wackers 7; King William 5 Lloyds 1.

Premier Division: Willenhall Three Crowns 10 Spills Meadow 0.

Division 1: Tenth Lock 1 Sedgley White Lion 8; Forest Falcons 2 Hadcroft Rvrs 0; Village Dudley 4 Barley Mow Wdrs 4; Dudley Olympic 0 Malt Shovel Ath 9; Halesowen Members 3 Ruiton Harriers 1; Ockerhill Waggon 5 Britannia 5.

Fixtures
Thursday

Ray Turley Memorial Trophy Group 1: Bush Ath v Pensnett Utd. **Group 2:** King William v Wackers.

Division 1: Hadcroft Rvrs v Sedgley White Lion; Malt Shovel v Britannia; Dudley Olympic v Forest Falcons; Halesowen Members v Dudley Utd.

Sunday

Ray Turley Memorial Trophy Group 1: Bush Ath v Three Crowns; Spills Meadow v Pensnett Utd. **Group 2:** Lloyds v Wackers.

Division 1: Barley Mow Wdrs v Malt Shovel Ath; Britannia v Tenth Lock; Dudley Olympic v Sedgley White Lion; Ocker Hill Waggon v Ruiton Harriers; Village Dudley v Halesowen Members.

Fran Connop, front, with other members of Stourbridge Running Club after winning their annual 10km handicap race

Fran is first runner home in club's annual handicap

FRAN CONNOP was first back in Stourbridge Running Club's annual handicap race.

All runners started off at staggered times and ran a 10km route via the canal towpath.

The postponed Ironbridge half-marathon has now taken place with a total of 280 runners taking part.

Stourbridge had three runers in action during the event and their first man over the line was Pete Walters, who closed one hour, 29 minutes to finish 17th overall – a fine result.

Next for Stourbridge was Paul Bradley, 79th in 1:42 while Errol Cumberbatch finished 186th and stopped the clock at 1:59.

Stourbridge Running Club welcomes new runners of all abilities and has groups to suit all paces.

They meet every Monday and Wednesday at 6.45pm at Stourbridge Cricket Club, at the Stourbridge War Memorial ground.

Steven Pearce, left, and Sam Eggington get set. *Picture: Rob Ellis, UKO Boxing*

Tear-up is predicted by boxers in title tilt

STOURBRIDGE fighters Steven Pearce and Sam Eggington predict a "tear-up" in their Midlands welterweight title in Dudley.

Pearce defends his newly-won belt against Eggington at the Venue on Friday, May 3 in a 10-round contest. The champion put away co-challenger Luke Gallear, of Derby, on four days notice in a five-round March brawl at Burton Town Hall.

'Fierce Pearce,' aged 28, has nearly nine years on Eggington but only three fights more pro experience, although he was next in line for the Midlands title shot that came early.

Walsall's Joel Ryan pulled out of the Gallear fight with a chest infection and stepped aside rather than face Pearce, opening the door for Eggington.

Hungry

Pearce said: "It's going to be some fight. We're both game fighters who enjoy a tear-up and we're both really hungry for success. I want to keep my title and move on to bigger and better things and Sam wants to win the title to push on, too."

Eggington may have had just five professional fights but has a superior amateur pedigree, winning Clubs for Young People and ABA Novice national titles.

The 19-year-old, with a clean knockout over Czech Vaclav Skromach in his last pro fight, said: "I can't wait for it."

Both boxers competed in January's Prizefighter at Wolverhampton Civic Hall and lost undefeated records, Pearce stopped against eventual winner Glenn Foot.

Eggington battled against a fierce onslaught from finalist Dale Evans.

Tickets are £30 for unreserved seating and £60 at ringside, which includes a three-course meal. They are available from the Venue Box Office on 01384 453 101.

Young side miss out on match for the winning

Dudley Kingswinford 30 Bromsgrove 32

A YOUNG Dudley Kingswinford side missed out in a National Two North match they could,, and perhaps should have, won.

They outscored Bromsgrove by three tries to two and gradually regained composure after a tough start in which everything was thrown at them.

DK, two scores up with 14 minutes left, looked to increase their points tally asn they unaccountably began coughing up good possession for more experienced, streetwise Bromsgrove to seize upon unforced errors and grab the points at the death. They had only themselves to blame.

Rugby union

Bromsgrove offered little threat behind the scrum apart from flawless goal-kicking by fly-half Rich Mahoney. DK scored two excellent backs tries but squandered other chances.

Bromsgrove's Mahoney kicked two penalties in the first six minutes and DK struggled in early set scrums but Bromsgrove were offside after eight minutes and Gareth Bown kicked a 40-metre penalty.

Monster

He landed two more, the second a monster, to put DK ahead but Mahoney replied with two shots of his own to put the visitors back ahead.

Just on half-time he added a neat drop goal to leave the visitors 15-9 up at the break.

DK scored a smart try after 43 minutes as a hurried Bromsgrove defensive kick was charged down under pressure. A scrum ensued and DK moved it wide, Matt Perks took the final pass and did well to brush off tackles and touch down a fine debut try in the corner, Bown's superb touchline conversion edged DK 16-15 ahead.

The home side were penalised at the kick-off and a penalty catch and drive saw Bromsgrove set up a rolling maul culminating in No.8 Phil Horton crashing over. Mahoney's conversion restoring their lead to 16-22 after 45 minutes.

From 10m out Stefan Shillingford bulldozed through to score and Bown added the extras for DK to be up 23-22 on 49 minutes.

DK scored the try of the game after 56 minutes. After stealing the Bromsgrove lineout, quick hands down the line, a subtle pop pass from Shillingford saw Bown cut in at an angle for a fine try which he converted.

DK conceded a rash of penalties and Mahoney nailed a crucial one after 66 minutes to make it 30-25.

Bromsgrove's Phil Horton dived over to level at 30-30. and Mahoney converted from touch.

Hopeful Emerson top-scores as Potters go down

Stoke rider Emerson Jones winds it on during practice at Leicester's Beaumont Park circuit. Inset, Jones at Stoke

STOURBRIDGE speedway hopeful Emerson Jones top-scored for Stoke Spitfires in his first competitive team match.

He registered six and a bonus point as Stoke went down 23-13 at Redcar in the Midland Development League KO Cup first leg. Jones followed partner Sam Jones home in the second race for a 5-1 to level scores at the South Tees Motor Sports Park.

He played a lone hand in the final race as Shaun Tedham's mechanical problems stopped him riding. Jones managed to split the Redcar pairing of Dan Phillips and Ryan MacDonald and peg the deficit to 10 to give his team a chance in the second leg.

Spitfires team boss Mike Gittings said: "Emerson did well for us. " Jones found it harder at Loomer Road in Stoke's 40th anniversary meeting, withdrawing from the individual event after a couple of falls.

SPORT

Title tear-up
Pair look forward to big Dudley bout
Page 47

Fran the first
Connop wins the race on towpath
Page 47

Sports Desk 01902 319461 e-mail: chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk

Priest's late goal rescues Sports

Dudley Sports 2
Wolverhampton Casuals 2

DUDLEY SPORTS hit back to claim a West Midlands Premier point despite trailing twice.

Sports' Sean Williams, Chris Henry and Angelo Franco had goalbound shots blocked but keeper Sam Pearson kept a 20-yard shot by Casuals' Matt Bailey out.

Dean Clarke clipped Sports' woodwork but Casuals just before half-time Shane Priest deflected a Williams shot past Pearson.

Casuals were denied a penalty at the start of the second half as Luke Tudor was felled in the area and in an isolated attack Sports levelled in the 65th minute.

Luke Williams fastened onto a Tudor clearance off the line. His powerful shot hit the bar and the rebound was judged to be over the line by the assistant referee.

From the restart, Williams headed against a Sports post. Pearson rescued Sports with a save from substitute Ray Facey and minutes later kept out a Bekir Halil header.

Casuals deservedly led in the 79th minute as Clarke's shot took a deflection off Henry onto the bar then in.

The home side broke Casuals' hearts in the 90th minute as Priest scored from the penalty spot after substitute Carlo Franco had handled the ball in the area and was shown a red card.

Sailing club taster days

HIMLEY HALL Sailing Club host free taster days this spring and summer.

Experienced club members will take people for taster sails with the club will providing all the equipment and the safety boat.

Taster days are planned for April 27 and August 3.

Anyone aged eight to 98 is welcome to go along, have a free session and learn about organised training opportunities for 2013.

Sessions are very popular so advance booking is essential.

Contact Ian Sim by calling 01902 755149 to reserve a place.

Please advise the club at the time of booking if you have any special needs.

The club is a recognised Royal Yachting Association training centre and all training staff are RYA qualified coaches, have first aid qualifications and CRB clearance.

Challenging weekend for Luke

Motorcycling

BRIERLEY HILL racer Luke Quigley had a challenging weekend at the opening round of the British Superbike Championship at Brands Hatch.

Quigley, making a first outing for the newly-formed MH Kawasaki team, finished 18th and 17th in respective races.

Bad weather prevented him completing pre-season testing, so the first time he turned a wheel on his new MH Kawasaki was at the weekend.

He suffered gearbox failure in Friday's practice – already cut short due to snow and freezing temperatures. The team resolved the issue for the following day to start to focus on developing the new bike.

After qualifying 22nd, Quigley had his work cut out to score points in either of Sunday's races. He had good battles, particularly in the second race with two-time Italian Superbike champion Matteo Baiocco and ex-World Superbike ace Jakub Smrz, but he could manage only 18th and 17th respectively – outside the points.

He said afterwards: "We always knew it was going to be tough. It's a new team and new bikes, we had virtually no data prior to coming here.

"I think we have definitely made some good progress over the course of the weekend. The guys have all been working hard.

"We've still got a long way to go but we just need to keep plugging away.

"The good thing is that it's only a few days until we go to Thruxton for the next round so we can keep things moving along. Hopefully we will be able to push on there and see if we can score some points."

Luke Quigley (No.57) gets low in a corner at Brands Hatch

WORTH THE WAITE FOR HAPPY TIPTON

Tipton Town 1 Stourport Swifts 0

TIPTON TOWN secured a home win over high-riding Stourport Swifts in the first visit of the club since both joined the Midland Alliance.

Swifts, relegated to Alliance level for the 2012-13 season, have an impressive football pedigree which had helped launch them to second place in the table.

Tipton Town

The visitors made their mark early with some disciplined, well thought-out play and called the tune during the early stages.

Lewis Pountney drove just wide for Stourport but Tipton quickly responded, Richard Huckfield rising highest to head Matt Martin's corner kick narrowly past the post.

Aerial balls were all too frequent during the first-half, Tipton's Huckfield and Adam Wattley coping admirably with this familiar barrage.

Inventive

Stourport were very inventive in other ways, too, with measured play by captain Mark Benbow and Jamie Willetts giving Tipton plenty of concerns although their goal remained unbreached.

Tipton were gradually growing more in confidence, however, and began the second-half on the front foot.

Stourport responded rapidly with Lewis Pountney reacting quickest to power in a downward header which Dan Parker again diverted off the line.

Matt Martin was having an increasing influence on the game for Tipton.

His superb through pass in the 68th minute opened a channel for Clark O'Connell, but the wing man's final drive was too high. More fine defensive work by Wattley and Huckfield helped keep the Swifts forward line in check before Mitchell Tonks' deep cross was headed towards goal by Dan Dubidat with goalkeeper Haydn Whitcomb equal to the task.

Tipton, pressing their hardest for the elusive goal, finally got the reward for persistence in the 80th minute.

A recent newcomer to the fray, Nathan Waite, drove home what proved to be the winning goal from close range after Dubidat had previously seen his own effort turned aside by Whitcomb in the away goal.

Tipton almost sealed the match in the 83rd minute when Tonks' free-kick flashed past a post.

After Huckfield had halted the progress of Pountney in the 86th minute at the expense of a corner, the home side's goal remained unbreached.

But they received a mighty scare in the dying seconds when a quite majestic leaping header from Kevin Spencer smashed against the home crossbar before rebounding to safety.

The points were Tipton's – but only just

Ashley reveals pride in being Heathens' skipper

ASHLEY MORRIS has revealed his pride at leading Dudley Heathens as skipper this season.

He made a great start, dropping two points from five rides in a 45-41 win at Mildenhall in the first leg of the National Shield on Sunday.

Morris, the only rider to appear in all four seasons of the modern Heathens after their 2010 rebirth, said: "I'd like to say how proud and honoured I am to have the opportunity to be captain of the Heathens."

Team boss Will Pottinger said of the April 30 return: "It's a fantastic way to start the season, but the return leg is far from a formality, in fact it could be every bit as tough as Sunday was.

"Mildenhall are a great side once again and they will come to us determined to turn it around and win the Shield. From our own point of view we are desperate to win it for a third successive season because that would be a tremendous achievement.

"I was delighted with the team display on Sunday because every rider in our team did their job superbly.

"Six of the riders won a race and young Nathan Greaves at reserve got a paid win in heat two.

"We could have scored more points as well but I guess Mildenhall can also argue their case for points slipping away. The downside to having an almost completely new team is the lack of experience at Monmore Green.

"We only have Ashley Morris and Dan Greenwood left from last season and that means the rest of the boys have to get accustomed to Monmore Green quickly.

"Hopefully they can finish the job in the return leg."

Ashley Morris leads the way at Mildenhall. *Picture: John Hipkiss Photography*

Hill puts Robins up above Lockmen

Willenhall Tn 0 Dudley Tn 3

DUDLEY TOWN established a comfortable degree of supremacy over their old rivals.

But the defeat left Willenhall looking over their shoulders as they fight to avoid a third successive relegation.

The Robins took the lead after just six minutes of this West Midlands Premier match when, after initiating the move, Brett McGilligan rounded it off with a powerful shot that beat former Dudley keeper Matt Rodgers.

It was 2-0 just seven minutes later; a low pinpoint cross found Tom Gadd who rounded Luke Guy and crafted a shot that left Rodgers helpless.

Willenhall's task got tougher when midfielder Martin Hill was perhaps unfortunate to see red following a challenge on Dudley's Ross Love.

The Lockmen dug in but the second half was all one-way traffic.

Dudley's third goal was beautifully taken by Geoff Hill in the 77th minute to seal the win.

Minor counties friendly hosted

HIMLEY Cricket Club's 2013 season starts with a bang on Sunday when the Stourbridge Road ground hosts a Minor Counties friendly between Staffordshire and Shropshire.

The match starts at 11am and is 50 overs a side.

Himley firsts begin their campaign the day before with a trip to Dorridge CC in the Williamson Trophy.

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